

We've been hosting since 2016, nearly 6 years. It began as a side gig while our 3 boys attended college to help with these bills.

It has grown into much much much more for my husband and me. He and I have always been self-employed, 39 years building our businesses together.

National and world economic events put us through the wringer and through everything from Lehman Brothers to Covid, we've had to re-invent our business(es).

First, hosting was another income stream. As we began to succeed and grow our Airbnbs, we noticed something else—the people. There are so many people in this world who go to other places because of life situations. Many many many of our guests are families who come from around the world to Cincinnati Children's Hospital. These families often cannot be part of Ronald McDonald House for a home. Especially during Covid. They need a home and not a hotel. Our location in St Bernard is just 2 miles away from Children's.

Often, Duke Energy Lineman stay with us for extended time to assist after storms. They need a multi bedroom apartment with a full kitchen to stay together.

Right now, CSX workers are staying with us as we're the only option to accommodate their group and stay close to the rail yards in a safe neighborhood and home like comfortable place.

There is EXTREMELY limited hotel room availability near the Zoo, the Hospitals, Univ of Cincinnati and Xavier University.

Additionally, our small village of St Bernard is growing with small businesses and all in walking distance. Guests are amazed to find our small town oasis with local restaurants and even it's own thriving local brewery so close to everything Cincinnati has to offer. Families in our neighborhood have begun arranging for their visiting relatives to stay at our place instead of packing into their own homes.

The members of the Airbnb community have a certain regard for the opportunity of living locally. There's a deep mutual respect between host and guest and the communities where we all live whether it's long or short term.

Hosting guests rather than struggling with tenants has provided financial assistance to our family in a most unexpected way. So much so, this is the retirement plan for my husband and I. It's so rewarding to earn income and welcome people from everywhere into our homes.

I'd be happy to be part of any discussion panels to help provide input from a host perspective into the deliberations of HB563 which I wholeheartedly support.

I served as an elected official on City Council and as Vice-Mayor of Wyoming, Ohio for 12 years. As a fellow legislator I believe HB 563 corrects existing legislation to reflect the technological developments of the app based gig-economy so we cannot be singled out and excluded from participation in the rights provided in laws governing rental property.

Sincerely,

Victoria Zwissler