



FAMILY PROMISE



Our Hospitality Program is *Just* the Beginning

A Message from our Director

One of our primary goals at Family Promise is to leverage our church-based hospitality program into long-term success for our guest families. We want all the hard work and resources poured into the church-based hospitality program to serve as the foundation for lasting self-sufficiency and independence of our guest families. With more than 60 families having spent time in our hospitality program over the past three years, we are now directing more and more resources toward supporting our former guests.

Our **Alumni Moving Ahead** group met for the first time over a year ago. They have continued to meet just about every other month since then. Our most recent meeting was just before Christmas. Over 30 former guests, adults and children, gathered to share a meal, decorate Christmas cookies, share advice and enjoy each other's company. We are especially thankful to Dr. Martin Luther Church in Oconomowoc for letting us use their facilities for our meetings and to volunteer, Terrell Tynfield, for serving as our primary coordinator of these events.

There are currently six Alumni Moving Ahead events scheduled for 2018. These will include special activities and guests, childcare, great food, a support group discussion, plus lots of door prizes and other special gifts.



We are also ramping up our case management of former guest families. In the 2018 moves along, up to thirty percent of our current case manager's time will be devoted to former guests. At some point, we will be looking at bringing in a second case manager who focuses exclusively on alumni families.

If you would like to get involved in our Alumni Moving Ahead group or have something to contribute, please contact me.



David Tennyck
Executive Director
414-587-2476

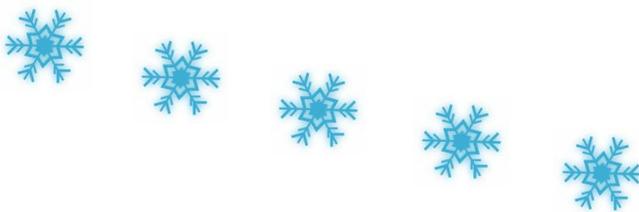
david@familypromisewaukesha.com

Year-End Match Campaign a Tremendous Success!

Once again we reached out to our generous donors and asked you all to either provide funds for a year-end match or make a donation to be matched. We are so proud to announce that we exceeded our goals and even broke a new record for year-end giving **with a grand total of \$70,000!**

As we embark upon expanded support for our ever-growing alumni army, your generous contributions are changing lives more than ever. Thank you!

MATCH CAMPAIGN RESULTS



INSIDE THIS ISSUE



A Message from the Board Chair



Helping Our Guest Alumni



Family Promise Plays Santa



Volunteer of the Month

Happy New Year!

A Message from the Board Chair



Happy Warm New Year to all! As you can see from the Executive Director's report, we had a very successful end of the year fund raising campaign. On Behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank all of you who helped us set up our match dollars and for all the churches, individuals, community groups and businesses who contributed for the final result. The community's generosity was also felt by all the guests and alumni families who were able to experience special gifts during this time of holiday spirit. Many of us Board members are also involved at our churches during their FP week hosting weeks and it was wonderful to hear the gratitude and thankfulness of each family served during those weeks.

Now that the New Year is here, the Board will be addressing the future growth and priorities for Family Promise going forward. We will be meeting on Saturday, February 10th for our annual retreat for strategic planning. We encourage feedback from all of our constituents regarding issues of concern, ideas for change and opportunities to build partnerships for program and financial support. Please feel free to contact me or any of the board members by February 1st for meeting agenda consideration or at any time during the year.

We also have a couple of openings for new Board members. If you would like to find out more about the responsibilities of being a Board member, please let us know. We would love to tell you more about what we do and how you can help.

Thank you again for all the support given throughout the year in so many ways. It is so great to be able to offer the hospitality, safety, resources and relational warmth and caring to our guests- no matter how cold it may be outside!

Marjore Thompson, M.A.
Family Promise Board Chair



Family Promise Plays Santa for 15 Families

During our first Christmas in 2014, several churches and church groups provided Christmas presents for our three guest families. Parents put in specific requests for each family member while churches and church groups shopped, wrapped and delivered the gifts to our door.

Over the years this Christmas tradition has continued and has expanded exponentially at Family Promise. This year, various churches and church groups fulfilled wish lists for no less than 15 current and former guest families. Carloads of gifts made their way to our Day Center and we had a fantastic time presenting the gifts to families overcome with joy and gratitude.



Debbie Kopydlowski (right) from host congregation, St. Theresa's Church with Family Promise Case Manager (left) dropping off gifts for our guests and alumni

“Many of our graduate families are working hard to just to make rent and get food on the table,” says Director David Tennyck. “These gifts make all the difference in the world to them. I firmly believe that the gifts we give to those who can’t afford them far outweigh the value of all the gifts we more fortunate folks exchange amongst ourselves.” Thanks so much for helping to fulfill the real meaning of Christmas.

Helping our Guest Alumni

A Message from Erin Pechacek

Thoughts about how we can help our guest “alumni” have been circling through the Day Center as well as our host and support congregations for some time. I am excited to begin the New Year with changes at Family Promise that will involve growing our guest alumni program. We believe that when case management carries through a family’s transition from the program to home, their successes in life increase while re-entry into homelessness declines.

Further, I’ve had a chance to meet and talk with several of our alumni to find out their thoughts on continuing to connect with me via case management. The response was overwhelming: our alumni families would love support outside the walls of Family Promise.

I believe committing to case management for our former guests



after leaving Family Promise will be highly beneficial in numerous aspects of their lives. Many parents still struggle to make ends meet or simply need help finding resources. Some have difficulty earning a living wage. Some have had car accidents and cannot afford car repair. And others feel isolated and crave social interaction.

By expanding our alumni program, we can bridge some of these gaps that cause our families stress and hardship. The last thing any of us want – staff and volunteers alike – is to know that alumni families have entered back into homelessness. I am enthusiastic about the notion of doing my part in assisting our former guest families to be able to continue to live on their own, and not fall back into the cycle of homelessness. Through continuing our bi-monthly alumni get-togethers, along with phone calls and face-to-face meetings, I know that Family Promise will succeed in being an entity of hope and an extra boost to our families need.

WISH LIST

Current needs for our guests and day center

GIFT CARDS (\$10 or \$25 value)

Kwik Trip Gas
WalMart
Target
Pick ‘n Save
OfficeMax

CLEANING SUPPLIES

Paper Towels
Garbage bags - 13 & 30 gallon
Laundry detergent pods for HE machine
Dryer Sheets
Lysol spray / cleaning sprays

CHILDREN’S NEEDS (no pull ups - thanks)

Diapers Size 1 & 6
Baby wipes

TOILETRIES

Hand soap
Body wash (not bar soap)
Kleenex
Toilet paper



Volunteer of the Month: Johnna Sachtschale, Board Treasurer

Some things were just meant to be and often timing is everything. When asked about how she became involved with Family Promise, she said she was asked by her Pastor at Grace Church in Delafield to be chair of the outreach committee. After a few months, she recruited her church to become a Support Church for Family Promise and volunteered to become their Volunteer Coordinator. Initially, "I didn't think there was a homeless issue in our area". She is continually learning about homelessness and getting educated about the cycle of poverty, which is helping her become more understanding and gracious towards our guests. She has realized that every family is so different in their struggles and yet they bring such a positive attitude to the program-and such hope. "An ongoing question that I have is how can we help serve those without resources, in a graceful and loving manner, so that they may have the opportunity to realize their goals and dreams? I love that Family Promise surrounds these families with wonderful, loving people who want to do just that."

As she learned more about the need and had the opportunity to become more involved she jumped in! A Board member found out she was an accountant and asked if she would consider being a Board member as well and of course, she said "yes!" "I'm a behind the scenes kind of person and I love grassroots organizations. I like to see help go directly to the people that need it and see that the whole community is involved. I am also allowed to



find my niche too." She also stated she loves the fact that so many churches are working together for a great cause and that her contribution as Treasurer allows the Executive Director and other staff to go out and do what they do best to serve families.

Johnna has been serving as FP Board Treasurer for over 4 years. She is also the Treasurer and bookkeeper on the Board of The Oasis Project, an organization of volunteer teachers that tutors at-risk children in local schools. Johnna is married to Tim and has 3 grown children. One is a Sr. at the University of Madison, and her daughter and son are both married. She recently celebrated the birth of her first grandchild and is expecting twin grandchildren in the very near future. Johnna spends most of her free time with family and cuddling with her granddaughter who is prepping her for the additional twins.

Family Promise is very lucky to have such a talented and committed Board member and volunteer. Thank you Johnna!

VOLUNTEER





We love our all of our guests and volunteers!

Family Promise of Waukesha County

Because every family deserves a home

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VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Visit our Events page for
details on upcoming
volunteer training