



**Building communities, strengthening lives.**

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**This newsletter is created monthly by FPGHC volunteers. Please share it with your friends.**



**BECAUSE OF YOU,  
I HAVE A HOME**

## **DIRECTOR'S CORNER**

**By: Nicole Fogle**



When a guest first enters the Family Promise program, they usually don't feel very good about themselves; have a long list of goals to accomplish; tasks to complete and problems to solve. What I find amazing is that God can always....always....

always use us no matter how broken we may be. We know that our volunteers do an awesome job of reaching out and helping others, but I think we often overlook how much our guests support each other. I read something that was titled "Sowing a Seed in your Time of Need" and it made me think about how much our guests lean on each other.

"Sometimes you can't solve your own problem, but you can solve somebody else's problem; God will enable you to help others, and if you'll sow a seed and help others, that's what's going to bring your own harvest; we pray for God to answer a prayer, but many times God doesn't send the answer we are looking for; He'll send a need, and in that need is the seed that holds the answer; what God is asking you to do, the people He has in your life, they hold the seed to your prayer being answered; if you reach out to them, God will bring your own harvest."

Kudos to our guests who have the heart, time, and energy to help each other.

## **WELCOME The Vine Church**

Family Promise of Greater Houston County welcomes The Vine Church as our newest Host church. We are very happy to have them as a part of our hospitality network. They did a great job during their first week of hosting, February 8th—15th! The Vine, led by Pastor Rick Harris, is located at 504 Marshallville Highway in Perry. Visit their website: [thevineonline.com](http://thevineonline.com)



## **Did You Know?**

**One out of every 30 American children experiences homelessness each year.**



## Raving Cravings

This is where we get a chance to brag on the delectable delights that our guests have raved about! This

month we want to talk about Ms. Beth's macaroni and cheese at First Baptist Church. I do not think we have had a rotation that has not talked about her mac and cheese. First Church of the Nazarene made the list with all the delicious desserts that were served during their host week. We heard about the gourmet cupcakes and the lemon cake. It appears that Union Grove is always going to be a favorite with their awesome spreads. Thank you for all the delicious meals and keep the comfort foods coming!

Thank you, Christ United Methodist Church

Nicole Fogle, Executive Director, stopped by Christ United Methodist Church to thank Terri and Dwayne Marcum for their part in leading the church's Pumpkin Patch mission this past fall. Because of them and the many volunteers from the congregation they were able to donate \$1,000 on behalf of the church to Family Promise. Thanks, Christ United!



### *RazBytes—Bite-size Nuggets from the President By: Dave Razo*

- We've been blessed! Our Family Promise guests have received three donated vehicles since December and there may be two more on the way—WOW, this community is generous—THANKS to all our faithful supporters!
- Speaking of vehicles—I'm afraid our Family Promise Van has seen better days. Thanks to Jack at Emmett Head Auto--he has kept it running longer than we might have expected. Its age, and wear-and-tear have now begun to take their toll. We are listing a Van as our most important high priority requirement, so please join me in prayer and action to find a new van for Family Promise.
- One area where our guests can use assistance is after they graduate from the FP program. The trials of a new home, possibly a new car, a new job, and new schools can be overwhelming. The FP Mentoring Program is designed for individuals who would like to make a real difference in their lives by helping them through some of these hurdles. Give me a call at (478) 923-9391 to find out how you can become involved in supporting our guests as they become self-sufficient.
- Our summers are precious to us, and we ask you to consider Family Promise as a fund raiser for Youth Car Washes, your church VBS or getting involved with FP as a mission.



Participation in Peaches to Beaches, Georgia's biggest and longest yard sale-held March 13-14, was a great success! Although these were cloudy days with some rain, folks came out looking for a bargain and \$2,034.56 was raised. Thank you to those that donated items to be sold and to

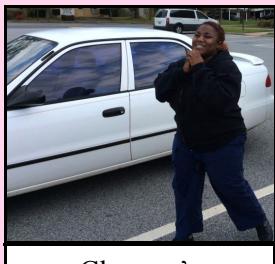
those that came by to visit and purchased a treasure. A great big THANK YOU to Brenda Shivers and Diane South for the many hours they spent unpacking boxes and pricing items. A special thanks to everyone who helped load and unload the truck and worked at the sale. We also want to again say THANK YOU to Grillmaster BBQ, 1509 Sam Nunn Blvd., Perry for allowing us to use their location for this event. Great Job Everyone!



We are in need of volunteers to help in several areas of service. Would you consider serving in any of these areas?

- ◆ Creating a Scrapbook—this would involve taking news articles, photos, and other information about FPGHC and documenting our activities
- ◆ Local Video Project—We have a volunteer with technical knowledge willing to work with someone to create a video about our network
- ◆ Grant Writer—Finding and obtaining grants is an important part of obtaining financial support
- ◆ Van Drivers—We need drivers available to transport our guests in the Family Promise van
- ◆ Speaking Engagements—We are always looking for opportunities to let others know about our organization. Do you know of a group that would be interested in hearing about Family Promise?

If you can help in any of these areas contact Carolyn Schomer at 922-2965 or schomerc@gmail.com



Claressa's Great Surprise

## A Great Surprise!

Claressa is nearing the end of her time as a guest with us and has made great progress in her quest to regain an independent, self-sustainable life for herself and her baby. To help her in this effort Ashlie & Brad Pullen and Jeff Anderson recently donated a car to Claressa. As you can see she was overwhelmed with joy in finding out she is now the proud owner of her first vehicle! It even has an unused spare tire and jumper cables although they do not expect these will be needed. Congratulations, Claressa!



Claressa receives the key to her car from donor, Brad Pullen

## 1800s Dance Performance Fundraiser

Andrew United Methodist Church is hosting a fundraiser to benefit Family Promise April 18th at 6:00 PM. The Macon 1800s Dance Group will be performing in period costumes. They will be dancing to tunes from the period including "Gone with the Wind", "April Fool", "Bonny Cuckoo" (Waltz), "Virginia Reel", and "Broken Sixpence." The group has appeared at the Cherry Blossom Festival, Civil War Reenactments, Jack Caldwell's home, as well as the Old South Ball in Savannah, Atlanta, and South Carolina. Tickets are \$20 each; which includes heavy hors d'oeuvres. Come out and enjoy some good food and entertainment. There may even be a surprise or two. Flyers and ticket books will be sent via e-mail at a later date. Contact Ronnie Shivers for more information at 478-987-4500 or e-mail at shivron@windstream.net.



We have several exciting events coming up. Be sure to mark your calendars now with plans to participate!

### April 18—Macon 1800s Dance Group Performance

**May 2—Belk Charity Day Sale:** The Spring Belk Charity Day Sale is May 2, from 6–10 AM. Family Promise is again one of the non-profit organization benefiting from this event. You can purchase a \$5 ticket from Vivian Stilley or contact her to offer to help sell tickets at the Belk store during the month of April. Contact Ms. Stilley at [vivian.stilley@cox.net](mailto:vivian.stilley@cox.net) or 333-3357. Let's all work toward another \$2,500 Charity Day Sale.

**May 8—Volunteer Appreciation Event:** This appreciation dinner will be held at Shirley Hills Baptist Church. More information will be coming soon. You do not want to miss this special evening!

**September Date to be announced—CAR CITY** is coming – look for another fun-filled evening under the stars.

**October 18-25—Family Promise Week** is a time to increase awareness of family homelessness and of the local volunteer-based solution that affiliates offer.

We look forward to seeing you!

**FAMILY PROMISE OF  
GREATER HOUSTON COUNTY**

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**Family Promise of Greater  
Houston County, Inc.**

Is a non-profit 501c3 non-denominational organization for families in transition and part of a national organization founded in 1986. The Family Promise Network Program provides shelter, meals and support services to families without homes through a network of local congregations.

**Contributions are tax deductible  
to the extent allowed by law.**

**Combined Federal Campaign  
Member # 90951**

**Donate online:**  
<https://www.gagivesday.org>  
Type "Family Promise of Greater Houston County" in the search box



@fphoco



*Thank You*

**We are  
Grateful  
for all  
our Donors!**

**Thank You, Balvaunuca Club  
for your Generous Donation**

**Donations have also been Received from:**

*Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church  
First Christian Church Grace Group  
Thomas & Charlotte Slade  
Run For God proceeds  
Peaches to Beaches proceeds*

**Club 247 Donors:**

*Dianne & Jeffrey Douglass, Marie & Carlton Driskell,  
Janet & Ronnie Foskey, Carolyn & Dave Schomer*

**In-Kind Donations:**

*The Teen Advisory Board from the Nola Brantley Library  
donated toiletries for the Day Center*

**WISH LIST**

Pillows  
Laundry Detergent  
Walmart Gift Cards  
DVD Player-for the Day Center

Would you consider providing  
an in-kind gift of one of the  
items listed above?  
Thank you!

**Our Mission is to  
mobilize congregations  
and partner with social  
service agencies  
in order to help families  
obtain independent, self-  
sustainable living.**

**Ending Homelessness  
One Family at a Time!**