



Building communities, strengthening lives.



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This newsletter is created monthly by FPGHC volunteers. Would you consider sending us the names of your friends that would enjoy reading it each month? Our goal is to have a mailing list of 1,000 names. Send their names and email addresses to nrosser.familypromise@gmail.com

THANKS FOR SHARING



Director's Corner By: Nicole Rosser

2018 has been an amazing year. I have had the opportunity to work with 14 families, watching them on a journey to self sufficiency with hard work and the support of many volunteers. It is certainly no secret that volunteers are the core of Family Promise. Our host and support congregations do an amazing job of not just meeting the families basic needs, but leaving lasting impressions with adults and children alike.

There is much work that goes into preparing for a host week and I would like to recognize a few churches that have extended their support during the holidays. Time does not stand still for our guests. They need the same love and support during the holiday as they do every day and maybe a little bit more as they are not in their own homes.

Hosting during a major holiday can be very challenging for a host church with volunteer support being less due to families traveling and other personal commitments. These dates are always the most difficult to fill on the yearly host calendar. I would like to take this time to recognize the churches that hosted, or will be hosting, during the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years holidays:

Perry United Methodist Church
Northside Baptist Church
Trinity United Methodist Church



Your kindness and sacrifices have not gone unnoticed. Happy Holidays to all and Thank You for your year-round commitment!





Artists at Work

Remember meeting Lauren Booth in the September issue of our newsletter? She painted the beautiful mural in the Activities room.

Lauren began plans then to hold art classes for our guest children. In November she held a class teaching them about Australian Aboriginal Art. These budding artists greatly enjoyed the class and will proudly display their original works when they move into their homes.



Thank you to the Warner Robins Greenbriar Garden Club Members who came by the Day Center and changed the front door wreaths from a fall to a winter theme.

We appreciate your beautiful work!



MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR





RazBytes

*From: Dave Razo
Board President*

Greater Expectations

It is with mixed emotions that I write to you today. You see, after three years as

the Family Promise Board President and more than six years as a Board Member, it is time for me to step away from this responsibility.

Yes, there are feelings of relief—no monthly board meetings to attend, no pressure to find funding streams, no responsibility to oversee the orderly flow of information, and no responsibility to balance the needs of a wide variety of board issues. However, there are also feelings of greater expectations. The feelings of what can and will be in our Family Promise future. You see, I believe the brightest days for Family Promise of Greater Houston County are still ahead.

Yes, we have come a long way since the spring of 2013 when we opened our doors in a small two bedroom Day Center graciously lent to us by First UMC. We've come a long way since the days we transported our guests in a well-used (very old) and greatly appreciated van. From those first few churches that we had as partners to the 35 churches and organizations we call partners and friends today, we have come a long way.

We have come a long way with the help of literally hundreds of volunteers, and especially all our church coordinators that orchestrate their volunteers to support our guests—thank you so very much. And of course, we couldn't have come this far without all the Board Members—not only the 15 Family Promise Faithful that partner with me now, but the more than 50 other members that have helped over the past six years. We have come a long way as we now have a large building complex located in the downtown district, a newer van, and two relatively new trailers. With these assets on our books comes greater responsibilities for maintenance, insurance, upkeep, and operating costs. The challenges ahead are clear but I believe the opportunities are even greater. We have the opportunity to help families in need transition from homelessness to self-sustainment.

Since opening our doors we have done very well in ensuring that 80% of our graduating guests are able to transition to their own self sustainable home and 85% of our adult guests have a source of income upon graduation. The statistics are great, but what I like to focus on are the children—135 children have passed through our doors and found a place they can now call home.

Together we continue to meet the challenges of homelessness in our community, and we will all need to step-up to the opportunities that come with greater expectations. I believe we are up to the task and with your help I look forward to continuing this journey together; helping to solve homelessness in Houston County—one family at time.



Nicole receives a check from Robins Financial Credit Union in support Of Family Promise.



Nicole, Dave, and Carolyn hosted a Christmas party for the coordinators of our host and support congregations. This is just a small way to say THANK YOU to them for all they do for our guests. We are also grateful for the volunteers that faithfully work with our coordinators. Together we are making a difference!



community rewards

Are you purchasing gift cards to give this holiday season? Be sure to check at your local Kroger for your purchases. You can often get 2X and 4X points using your Kroger rewards card. Using his extra points, Dave recently purchased gasoline at Kroger for only \$1.00 per gallon. Be sure you have listed Family Promise as the non-profit organization you support, # SU460. If you need further information read all the details on the front page of our website: www.familypromisehoustonco.org

Mark Your Calendar!
Car City will be held April 26-27, 2019



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

Is a 501(c)(3) non-denominational,
non-profit, 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
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these recent
financial donations:

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Jeffrey and Dianne Douglass
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Sacred Heart Christian Service Center**

Churches:

**Christ United Methodist
The Assembly at Warner Robins
First Christian Church of Perry
Faith Lutheran Evangelical**

Rx for Homelessness:

**Dave Razo
Barb Jahnke
Vivian Stilley**

Businesses:

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