



**Building communities, strengthening lives.**



**Volume 3 Issue 5**  
**May 2015**

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

## *Family Promise Celebrates Two Year Anniversary*

*In honor of the two year anniversary of Family Promise of Greater Houston County we asked Shirley Boan, Ronnie Shivers, and Vivian Stilley to share their thoughts and memories about the past two years.*

Ronnie Shivers, President for the first two years, shared: *WOW! Has it really been two years since we cut the ribbon at 213 McArthur Blvd? It is hard to believe it has been that long, but what a beautiful day it was on May 8, 2013 and what a beautiful ceremony it was! As Shirley and Vivian cut the ribbon, I felt a lot of pride in what our group had done in two years. A lot of hard work had gone into putting the organization together and raising enough funds to open. I also felt a strong sense of God's blessings on what we were about to do. As the ribbon was cut, we declared to the Houston County community our commitment to help end family homelessness one family at the time.*

*Continued on page 2*

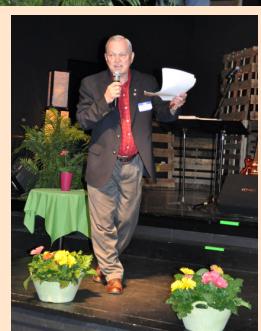


Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BANQUET**

It was so appropriate that the 2015 Family Promise Volunteer Appreciation Banquet was held May 8th, the exact anniversary of our Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in 2013.

This banquet, with Vice President Paul Shealy as our Master of Ceremonies, was initiated by the sultry sounds of Roland Fall and the LightWord Band—Thanks to Roland and the Band for the great music. We then we enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by 3Js Soul Food—thanks Rosetta!



*Continued on page 3*

***Family Promise Celebrates Two Year Anniversary continued:***

*The last two years have brought tremendous blessings to every person who has participated. We have seen many kids and their mothers come into the program very apprehensive of what was about to happen to them just to learn quickly there was no need to be apprehensive. They quickly felt the love all the volunteers gave. Many long lasting friendships have been made between the volunteers and the families. The children in our families have gained many aunts, uncles, and grandparents. But most of all, they have felt God's love through each and every volunteer.*

*I am very proud of Family Promise of Greater Houston County and thank God for the opportunity to be a part of such a great organization.*

*Vivian Stilley, who has been a part of FPGHC since the beginning, shares: In looking back on ribbon cutting pictures, It reminded me of how happy I felt that Warner Robins was now going to have Family Promise to help homeless kids and their families, an organization I knew from my Ohio experience to be so successful. How blessed this community had become in such a short period of time - after all it had only been 2 years since Shirley Boan lit the fire which started this. I was reminded of what untold blessings were in store for everyone involved in Family Promise, both on the giving and the receiving side.*

*Now two years later, all volunteers stand so much taller because of their involvement with FPGHC. And the kids . . . The kids, whose families we helped, have a much better chance of success in life because of FPGHC. Remember, IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS. I don't know how, but it will just keep getting better!*

*And from Shirley Boan, who had the dream to establish a network in Houston County: To each and every person who heard the story of Family Promise and felt called to share in the promotion of this ministry of assisting families in crisis to regain their independence and pride, I say THANK YOU!!! It has been such a marvelous journey of giving and sharing of time and talents and resources. Can you think of any other experience of interaction of various churches, various cultures and various strangers brought together to work for the welfare of other strangers where they all come to LOVE each other. That can only be called AGAPE love.....The kind of love that we are called to. Two years ago we held our ribbon cutting event at the Day Center and I felt so blessed to be a part of it. But the blessings just keep keeping on, Praise God. WE ARE BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING!*



Prayer Time at the Opening Ceremony



VOLUNTEER TRAINING

**Our next training class will be held**

**Monday, June 1st  
At Central Baptist Church  
1120 Lake Joy Rd  
6:00-7:30 pm  
Room 168**

**We hope to see you there!**



Sherry Nordan

## Highlights of the Volunteer Appreciation Banquet continued:

In addition to Sherry Nordan, a previous FPGHC guest, and Warner Robins Mayor Randy Toms "hitting it out of the park," with their talks, the evening was highlighted by recognizing all our volunteers. Although many more volunteers are deserving of individual recognition, it was our pleasure and privilege to present several awards at our 2nd annual Volunteer Appreciation Banquet. The following church's and individuals distinguished themselves in serving Family Promise and our guests over the past year. This year's honorees are:



Mayor Toms



Grace Church

### Most Creative Activity by a Host Church

Grace Church - Provides Pet Therapy to our guests during their host week



Shady Grove

### On Call Support by Host Church

Shady Grove - Stepped in on several occasions to let us use their facility when the scheduled host church was not available for host week



Fellowship Bible Baptist

### On Call Support by a Support Church

Fellowship Bible Baptist Church - has stepped in on several occasions to provide support to numerous host churches when needed



Nicole, Vicki, &amp; Carolyn Schomer, PR Chair

### Best Host Church/Support Church Collaboration

Trinity United Methodist and Christ United Methodist - Pauline Abbott and Sherry Sheppard work great together and both churches provide support to each other for a total of 5 rotations each year, with Christ United hosting in the summer



The Vine

### Adopt A Family

The Vine -- has taken on the role 2 years in a row of adopting any family that comes into the program at the last minute during Christmas to make sure the family has gifts



### Website and FP Force Support (our database) – June Underwood

### Graphic Design (creative graphics for our flyers)- Vicki Coulter



### Newsletter (outstanding monthly edition gaining notoriety at state and national levels) – Janet Foskey



### Best All Around Volunteer

Pauline Abbott is a Coordinator, takes the guests on numerous field trips, drives the van, and sits in at the Day Center when needed—involved with a host of activities



Mayor, Sherry, Nicole, Pauline &amp; Dave



Mayor, Ronnie, Nicole, &amp; Dave Razo



Left:  
Nicole,  
Janet, &  
Carolyn

Be sure to check our website for more photos. All photos related to this article were provided by Diane South.



Photos from the evening provided by Ronnie Shivers

**A HUGE THANK YOU** to Andrew United Methodist Church and Saint Patrick's Catholic Church, neighboring churches in Kathleen, for hosting the *Macon 1800s Dance Troupe* Fund Raiser Event April 18th. It was an enjoyable evening with wonderful food, outstanding entertainment, and very fine fellowship. The group was even able to get a few of the "stiff-backed" audience to participate! Through this effort \$1140.00 was raised for Family Promise.



### *Belk Charity Sale Update*

*By: Vivian Stilley*

During the May Belk Charity Sale Event we sold 603 tickets and raised \$3144.16. Special thanks for Carolyn Bonner, Deanna Schultz, and Sandy McClain, along with several board members, who were "newbie's" at selling tickets at the Belk store.

Thanks to EVERYONE who assisted in ANY WAY to make this fundraiser such a HUGH success. I am in a state of shock about the 603 tickets, all the money has been collected, and Belk has completed the distribution of their money to the local charities. In less than 2 weeks, it is all finished.



Many thanks to the 448 SCMW (Supply Chain Management Wing) Employee Committee, from Robins AFB, who recently "adopted" Family Promise! On a recent visit with Carolyn Schomer and Nicole Fogle, Edward Armijo (Chairperson), Amber Jones, and Ardell Johnson provided the Day Center with a DVD player, children's DVDs, and laundry detergent. All these items bring big smiles to our guests!



## **CAR CITY**

### **PUTTING THE BRAKES ON HOMELESSNESS IN OUR COMMUNITY**

"experience homelessness" for one night and raise a few funds in order to continue this much needed mission in middle Georgia.

***Save the Date  
CAR CITY is Coming***

***The night of September 25th at  
Central Georgia Technical College***

We are looking forward to even more fun this year!! Plan to join us for an evening under the stars as we



## **Calling All College Students.....**

**Classes Out for the Summer?  
Looking for Meaningful Ways to Connect and Serve?  
Want to Continue Building Experiences for Your Resume?**

**Come join us for pizza and information about**

**FAMILY PROMISE OF GREATER HOUSTON COUNTY.....  
A COMMUNITY RESPONSE FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN & THEIR FAMILIES**

FPGHC provides food, shelter, and support 24/7 through a network of churches, community agencies, and volunteers.

We would love to tell you about the program, share ways you might want to become involved for the summer break, and hear your ideas of how we might grow our network.

Thursday, June 4, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

Join us at our Day Center

213 McArthur Blvd, Warner Robins, GA 31093

RSVP: [nrosser@familypromisega@gmail.com](mailto:nrosser@familypromisega@gmail.com)

Check Us Out at [www.familypromisehoustonco.org](http://www.familypromisehoustonco.org)

Questions: 478-550-3880

**Would you consider serving in one of these areas?**



**Van Drivers**—We are always in need of folks willing to serve a few hours each week to drive the van that transports our guests from the Host Church to the Day Center and back each day

**Local Video Project**—We have a volunteer with technical knowledge willing to work with someone to create a video about our network

If you are interested in serving in these areas contact  
Carolyn Schomer at 922-2965 or [schomerc@gmail.com](mailto:schomerc@gmail.com)

**FAMILY PROMISE OF  
GREATER HOUSTON COUNTY**

**213 McArthur Blvd  
Warner Robins, GA 31093-3213**

**PO Box 8434  
Warner Robins, GA 31095-8434**

**478-328-8181 office  
478-328-8188 fax**

[www.familypromisehoustonco.org](http://www.familypromisehoustonco.org)

**Nicole Fogle, Director**

**Board of Directors**

**Dave Razo, President  
Paul Shealy, Vice President  
Bill Dunmon, Secretary  
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Jim Elliott  
Roland Fall  
Suzy Jolly  
Rebecca Lashley  
Sharon Rogers  
Carolyn Schomer  
Ronnie Shivers  
Vivian Stilley  
Daryl Sullivan  
Shirley Watson**

**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

**VAN DRIVE**

We initiated a Van Drive / Fund Drive over the past few weeks and need your help. As many of you know, our passenger van is suffering and has recently needed further repairs. An updated VAN is our most important priority. If you would like to donate to the purchase of a van, write "VAN DRIVE" as a memo on your check—Thanks in advance!

**Recent Donations have  
been received from:**

Thomas Slade

Cavan and Tina Woods

Dave and Lessia Razo

Dave and Carolyn Schomer - Club 247

Belk's fundraiser - \$3,144.16

My Father's Place fundraiser - \$792.00

Anonymous in-kind donation of  
washing detergent and toiletries

**WISH LIST**

**Gift Cards  
for summer activities:**  
Rigby's  
Dairy Queen  
Lanes Orchard  
Johnny G's Fun Center

**Walmart Gift Cards**  
to purchase gasoline for  
the van

**Kids Flip Flops:**  
All sizes, ages 13 and under

**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!**