



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.

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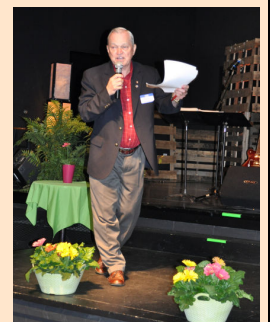
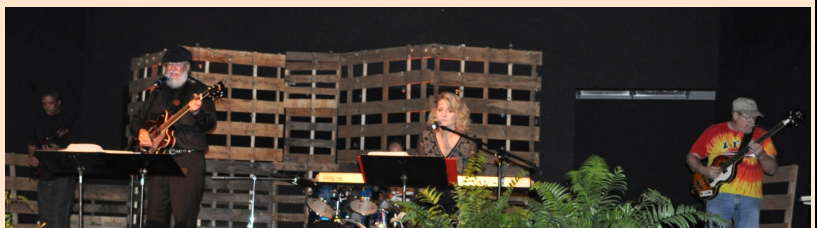
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

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!

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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!

Highlights of the Volunteer Appreciation Banquet continued:



Sherry Nordan

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:

Most Creative Activity by a Host Church

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

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

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

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

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



The Vine

President's Award: Ronnie Shivers--tireless worker and leader, served 2 years as the Board President

President's Award: Nicole Fogle: The lady that puts it all together--from guests, to churches to interacting with the Board--Our beloved Executive Director



Mayor, Sherry, Nicole, Pauline & Dave

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



Mayor Toms



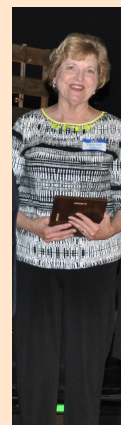
Shady Grove



Fellowship Bible Baptist



Nicole, Vicki, & Carolyn Schomer, PR Chair



Pauline Abbott



Mayor, Ronnie, Nicole, & Dave Razo



Left: Nicole, Janet, & Carolyn



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

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

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



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

Check Us Out at 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

**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

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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



@fphoco



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!

*Thank
You*

**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

**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!**

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

<https://www.facebook.com/FamilyPromiseHoustonCounty>