



Building communities, strengthening lives.

Volume 3 Issue 2
February 2015

WE LOVE
OUR VOLUNTEERS

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Thank you, Donors

Help Wanted

Plans are in the making for our second Volunteer Appreciation Event. It will be held in April. Watch for details on our website, Facebook, twitter, and newsletter.

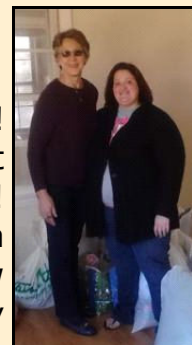
DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By: Nicole Fogle

We are so excited about our first graduate of 2015! Jessica did an amazing job while in the program. She left with a vehicle and housing. Such huge accomplishments! What I found to be the most heart warming was a comment that her 11 year old daughter made just a few weeks back. "We are not homeless, we are in Family Promise until we move into our new place."

A big thank you to all the wonderful volunteers that helped to get Jessica settled into her new home and the wonderful support team at Cross Point for assisting with the children.

Pictured is Jessica on moving day with volunteer, Dianne Douglass, from Centerville United Methodist Church and their first home meal cooking on the stove. CONGRATULATIONS to Jessica and the kids for all their hard work!



2014 Graduate Family Receives an Unexpected Blessing!



Robbie's initial reaction of surprise



Nicole gives keys to Robbie

Family Promise graduate, Robbie, has sustained her home since exiting the residential portion of the program last year, but she still had many challenges without her own transportation. February 11th she was surprised with a vehicle for her family; a Ford Explorer, donated from Reed & Renee Horton, who learned of this need through Barbara & Terry Horton. Robbie and her adult daughter can now get to their jobs with greater ease along with all the errands associated with school age children and activities for a busy family. Robbie not only shares her experience as a Family Promise guest with others, she volunteers as an overnight host and prepares meals for Family Promise guests periodically. She is great example to each of us!



Joining in the celebration: Diane South and Pauline Abbott, volunteers who were regular transporters for Robbie and her family; Dave Razo, Nicole Fogle, and Shirley Bowen, First FP President and current Board member.



THANK YOU, UNION GROVE BAPTIST!

Pastor David C. Clark presented a check for \$1,007 to Family Promise Board President Dave Razo at the February Board meeting. Pastor Clark shared that Union Grove Baptist Church takes an offering for others at their annual New Years Eve service. This year they shared the offering with Family Promise and Rebuilding Together. Thank you UGBC for your dedication and service as you work to provide safe homes for families in our community.

THANKS, BONAIRE MIDDLE SCHOOL!

By: Ronnie L. Shivers

Family Promise of Greater Houston County was selected to receive funds from the Bonaire Middle School annual pageant held January 10, 2015 under the direction of Ms. Cynthia Davis. In this picture I am receiving a check for \$3,000 from newly crowned Miss Bonaire Middle School, Reagan Stella, and Mr. Jag, Colton Walker. I was also invited by Ms. Vicki Walker (Colton's mom) to participate in the BMS career day on February 13th. During this event, the BMS 8th graders had an opportunity to talk to businesses and organizations from the local area. Many of the students stopped at the table to learn about Family Promise and expressed interest in volunteering. The 8th graders were encouraged to bring items to donate and did a great job. We received a huge mound of toiletry items, paper towels, toilet tissue, garbage bags, and blankets. Thanks Bonaire Middle School! We appreciate your very generous support and look forward to working with you in the future. I would also like to send a big THANK YOU to Amanda Miliner who helped us make the connection with BMS.



We Appreciate Our Community Partners!



We want to thank Todd and Dorothy Sicklesteele, owners, and all those in the community who supported Family Promise by purchasing and using the Pizza coupons during the Fundraiser Event sponsored by "My Father's Place" in early February! The totals are still being tallied, but we do not want to miss this opportunity to say THANK YOU for your support! Be sure to look further in this publication for the next DINING FOR DOLLARS opportunity.

Pictured here are Dave Razo, FP President, Vivian Stilley, FP Board Member, with Dorothy & Todd.

You haven't joined the Kroger Community Rewards Program to support Family Promise of Greater Houston County? What are you waiting for? Go to krogercommunityrewards.com and register your support of # 76557. Every time you shop at Kroger you are also supporting Family Promise. This does not effect your personal points & rewards. See our website for more details.





Our next Volunteer Training will be held:

Monday, March 2nd, 6:00 pm
 First United Methodist Church
 205 North Davis Drive, Warner Robins
 Meet us in Building C, The Carter Hall



If you have not yet attended one of these training sessions, please join us and learn how you can become an active part of receiving the great benefits of serving our guests.



Family Promise will once again be a part of Peaches to Beaches, Georgia's biggest and longest yard sale. It will be held March 13 & 14 and the Family Promise location will be at Grillmaster BBQ, 1509 Sam Nunn Blvd., Perry from 8:00 am- 6:00 pm. We need your help by providing donations for the sale. Look in your attic, Look in your garage, Look round the house! Bring us all

the things you haven't used in years. Let us sell them to raise money to help homeless families. (No clothes, please.) Then come on down to take advantage of the great prices at the sale and while you are here, stop in Grillmasters for some of the best BBQ in Georgia. To coordinate the giving of your donations call Ronnie Shivers at 987-4500 /396-1917 or contact him at shivron@windstream.net. If you would like a tax deduction form, please provide a list of the items donated with your name and address and a receipt will be given to you.

Dining for Dollars

By: Jonathan Bradford, Director of Operations

Join us Monday, March 23rd at LONGHORN Steakhouse in Perry as we partner with Family Promise of Greater Houston County to host Dining for Dollars. We are proud that fundraising is such a huge part of our community involvement. Bring your voucher between the hours of 4:00 pm and 10:00 pm and LONGHORN Steakhouse in Perry will donate 10% of your check to Family Promise of Greater Houston County.

Print the voucher pictured here or visit the FP Facebook page to obtain a voucher.





Would you like to make a huge difference in the life of a Family Promise guest? If so, then the **Family Promise Mentoring Program** is the place for you. Low-income families face enormous stresses. The Family Promise Mentoring Program is designed to help families overcome these stresses as they work toward becoming a self-sustainable family once again. In the Family Promise Mentoring Program, economically vulnerable families are matched with trained volunteer mentors who work with them, one-on-one, over an extended period of time for approximately one hour each week.

Mentors help individual families define and meet goals to:

- Develop life skills
- Connect with community resources
- Improve their housing and employment situations
- Nurture and support their children

Mentors build committed, trusting relationships. They listen. They offer understanding and respect. They help families overcome challenges and disappointments and celebrate successes.

Contact Dave Razo, FPGHC President, at Dave.Razo@gmail.com or 478-320-5967 to learn how you can be a part of this very worthwhile program.

2015 PRIORITIES

As we think about this “love month” and sharing ourselves with others, let’s look again at the goals of Family Promise of Greater Houston County:

1. **Continue Creating Quality Care**—Our host congregations will continue to provide meals and shelter for a week at a time, allowing our guests to focus on the future in dignity and with love and compassion. Our volunteers are fully trained to offer just the right level of assistance; their support is crucial to the effectiveness of the program.
2. **Creating Capabilities With Our Guests**—While in the program our guests receive guidance and counseling on budgeting, job skills, parenting skills, resume writing, filling-out job applications and interview skills—all with the goal of helping them get back on their feet. Our Director even monitors their ability to save money and utilizes various resources to help them transition back to self-sustainable status. These programs are administered at the Family Promise Day Center and may include experts from professional organizations willing to assist.
3. **Transitioning to Self-Sustainment**—Our goal is to help families re-establish themselves to a self-sustainable living situation and continue to provide “after program care.” Our extensive network of support agencies and volunteers throughout Houston County enables our guests to use a wide variety of resources to become thriving members of our community.
4. **Fully Funded for the Future**—We aim to provide streams of income for the Family Promise program that will enable the program to continue. Our goal is to establish and maintain a network of funding streams that remains confident in our ability to provide a needed service to the community at an incredible value.

**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!

**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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**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



Recent Donations Received:

**Given in memory of
Josephine Tischer from:**

B. J. Hennings, Cynthia Pantuso,
and Ann Voss

Individual Support donations from:

Robert & Linda Bailey, Jim Elliott, Michael & Tonya Fowler,
Shelley Holmes, Charles & Julie Mathis, Marsha Elaine Myles,
Thomas Slade, Julie & John Teague,
Victor & Robin Wade

Group Donations from:

Ambassadors for Christ,
Bonaire Middle School,
Centerville Homemakers Club,
Christ United Methodist, Faith Evangelical,
First Christian Church of Perry,
Grace Group of First Christian Church, RX for Homelessness,
Shirley Hills Baptist Church, Sisters of Christ Lutheran,
And Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Club 247 Member Donations from:

Jeffrey & Dianne Douglass,
Janet & Ronnie Foskey, Kirby Neal,
Dave & Carolyn Schomer

WISH LIST

Iron
Broom & Mop
Cleaning Supplies
Fabric Softener
Laundry Detergent

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



**We are looking for
volunteers to create
tri-fold display
boards for use with speaking
engagements, fund raisers, fairs,
and other public relation events.
We have a model to go by and
can assist with costs. Contact
Carolyn Schomer at 922-2965 or
schomerc@gmail.com for
information and to let her know
of your creative side that could
serve in this way. THANKS!**

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