

Annual Report 2013

Family Promise is a *Pathway to Home* for families facing uncertainty and homelessness. Your hope and promise is what fuels the families along their pathway to a home of their own.

Twenty-four families moved through our rotational network in 2013. WOW! This was more families than we saw in the first three years combined. By helping families move to housing faster, we decrease their length of stay in the network, thus allowing for us to serve more families overall. Your welcoming spirit and radical hospitality provided respite for parents and children alike, and empowered them to move along their own path to lasting independence.



A pathway to home takes on many forms. Ivie and her son needed only a little bit of time in our network, to sort things out, pay off some debt, and build a savings cushion. They moved into a place to call home before her mail even transferred over to the Day Center!



Stephanie and Adam faced some highs and lows: employment was gained and went away, progress was made and then stalled. They separated from our program and moved in with extended family, not into a place of their own. We were concerned. Would they secure lasting independence? Would they remain in contact with Family Promise? When the family secured employment and had money saved for housing, they called the place that had been reassuring and consistent: Family Promise. The door is never closed on any family, and success takes time. The family now has a place to call their own and is so thankful for your love and prayers. Most important, they are grateful you didn't give up on them.

Your support provided Travis and his beautiful teenage children an opportunity to remain together when other programs were not an option. Your investment assisted Travis to further his education and career goals so that he can provide for his family. He is proud of his home, proud of his new car and remains in contact with Family Promise to check on how WE are doing!

Last year was filled with growth. We widened our Pathway to Home program and began serving families outside of our hospitality network. With our creative approaches, collective resources and hope, we prevented homelessness and touched even more families with children in our community. Read on to learn more about our success in 2013.

Our first Annual Breakfast took place in October 2013 and was aptly titled "Pathway to Home". The program was inspiring and the financial investment pledged was impressive. Though a simple title, "Pathway to Home" is at the core of our mission. Your hope and belief in our families shows them that there is the light at the end of the tunnel; your hospitality are the guideposts along the way. We empower families to make their own turns, stop and go as they need to, but *you* walk the pathway to home with the families. They know this, are inspired by it and are tremendously grateful for you.

With deepest appreciation,



Carolyn Gordon, MSW
Executive Director, Family Promise of Northern New Castle County, Inc.

"Family Promise helped me when I was feeling depressed or frustrated. The organization helped piece together my goals."

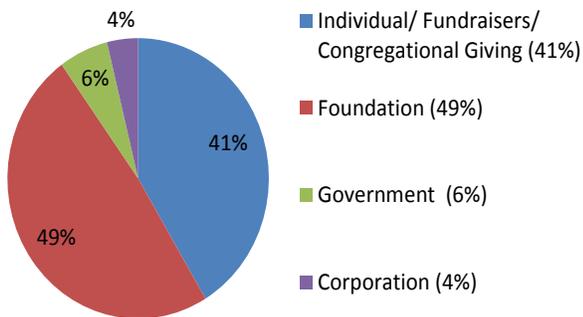
~ Graduate mom

What We Accomplished

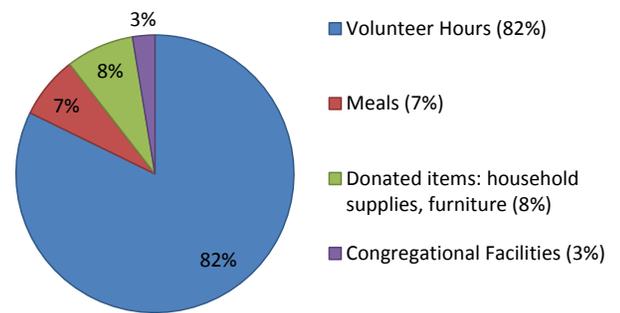
- Served 56 families (187 individuals), a 32% increase from 2012. Hiring a full-time Case Manager and launching the Community-based services allowed us to serve more families
- Helped resolve housing crises for 4 families served via Community-based services
- 24 families served via our hospitality network; 90% of graduates secured permanent housing
- Average length of stay was 59 days, decreased from 68 days in 2012
- Held our first Pathway to Home Annual Breakfast, raised approximately 14% of our 2014 program budget
- Engaged four new support congregations in our rotational interfaith hospitality network
- Our network was sought out as an expert: housing solutions for families (National Family Promise Conference); Board Effectiveness (National Family Promise Training), Housing Solutions & Community Engagement (Statewide Conference)

2013 Financials

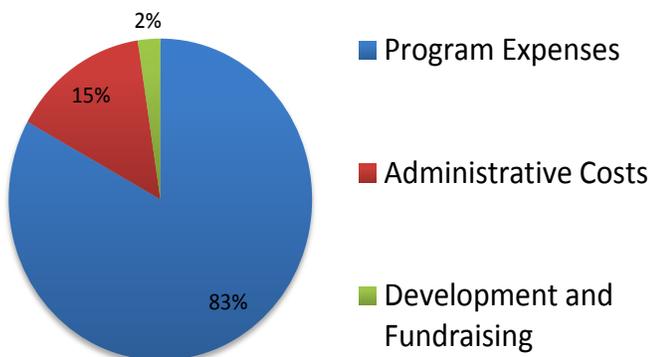
2013 Income: \$271,815



2013 In-Kind Donations: \$401,152



2013 Expenses: \$155,805



- *In-kind donations refers to: volunteer hours spent as evening hosts, drivers, dinner preparers; the expenses congregations incur opening up their facilities (i.e. water, heat, electric); and value of donated items (furniture for families, cleaning supplies, pillows, linens, etc.)*
- *Over \$50,000 of the income is restricted and earmarked for 2014 programming*

"We didn't have anywhere to go. Family Promise provided our family a place to sleep, the food. This is the way God sent us. Volunteers were helpful to the program and Family Promise was helpful to us. I am so thankful that FP was here at this particular time." ~ Graduate mom



Board:

President: Kim McWatters
Vice President: John Clatworthy
Treasurer: Teri Suddard
Secretary: Rev. Paul Lundmark
Merrie Bailey
David Glasscock, PhD,
Rev. Robert Hall
Denison Hatch, Esq.
Robert Heffelfinger
Rev. Gregory Jones
Peter Kopf
Scott MacLaughlin, MSW
Dennis McFarland
Rev. Dennis Marshall
La Vaida Owens-White, MSN, RN
Mary Ruggiero
Andrew Taylor, Esq

Staff

Carolyn Gordon, MSW, Executive Director
Cheryl Christiansen, Director of Community
Engagement
Capri Wiggins, Case Manager



We launched our pledge program and giving levels: Gift of Faith (\$1,000), Promise (\$5,000), Hope (\$10,000).

Individuals can now also donate via stock donations, IRA contributions and other tax-advantaged ways.

We implemented "Club 180" to help turn family lives' around! A gift at the level of \$180 can provide 3 months of bus passes for an entire family or can cover a family's utility deposit.

We had a 26% increase in individual giving overall and 175 new donors in 2013. On behalf of families served, thank you!

What was most helpful about Family Promise? Everything. The staff, the volunteers, all of it. The environment was spirit-lifting. It was filled with hope.

~ Graduate Dad

Congregations

Hosts

Aldersgate UMC*
Berea Presbyterian Church
Ebenezer UMC*
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd*
Grace Lutheran Church*
Hockessin Baptist Church*
Hockessin UMC*
Limestone Presbyterian*
Peninsula-McCabe UMC
Skyline UMC*
St. James Mill Creek Episcopal Church*
St. Marks UMC*
St. Philips Lutheran Church*
Westminster Presbyterian Church*
White Clay Creek Presbyterian*

Supports

Avondale Presbyterian Church
Bethel A.M. E Church
Chester Bethel UMC
Chippey AUM*
Christ Our King Catholic Parish
Congregation Beth Emeth*
Congregation Beth Shalom
Hanover Presbyterian
Ignite Wilmington (formerly Impact Family Worship Center)
Kingwoods UMC*
Marshallton UMC*
Mt. Lebanon UMC*
Resurrection Parish*
Seeds of Greatness Bible Ministries*
Shiloh Baptist Church
St. John The Beloved Catholic Church*
St. Stephen's Lutheran Church*
Trinity Community Church*

Affiliates:

First Presbyterian Church*
God's Grace Christian Fellowship*
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish*
Love of Christ Church
RiverCross Fellowship*
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church*
St. Catherine of Sienna*
The Journey

Foundations

The Chichester duPont Foundation*
Church World Services, Inc.*
Crystal Trust*
Delaware Community Foundation*
Delaware Kids Fund*
Gannet Foundation*
Laffey-McHugh Foundation*
New Castle County Presbytery Speer Fund*
New Castle County Presbytery West Legacy Trust*
Ohio Casualty Foundation*

Corporations & Organizations

Agilent Technologies*
Amazon.com*
Artisans' Bank*
Behr Process Corporation
Berkshire Hathaway/Fox & Roach Realtors/
Prudential Foundation*
Chesapeake Bay Girl Scout Troup 278 & 1293
Child Inc. Community Choice Program
Christiana Hospital
Citi Community Development/Citibank*
Clemen's Food Group
Curves for Women
Delaware Furniture Exchange
Delmarva Broadcasting*
DelPark Manor Association
Discover Financial Services*
GlaxoSmithKline*
Herr Foods, Inc.
Home Depot
JPMorgan Chase*
Kimberly Clark Corporation
Mark Voci Salon & Colorbar
McCrery & Harra Funeral Homes*
MDavis*
MVP Builders*
North East Yacht Club
Quattrioriocci Real Estate*
Royal Bank of Canada*
State Farm Insurance: Melissa Ludwig*
Wells Fargo— Prices Corner Branch*
WSFS*

Government:

First State Community Action Agency, Inc.*
New Castle County ESG & CDBG programs*
Newark Finance Department*

*** Denotes Financial investor**

Pathways to Home

Endings...And New Beginnings

“HELLO. MY HUSBAND AND I ARE IN DESPERATE NEED OF HELP. WE HAVE BOTH BEEN LAID OFF WITH IN THE LAST 4 MONTHS, AND ARE TRYING DESPERATELY TO FIND HELP. WE HAVE A VERY BRIGHT 6 YR OLD SON AND A WONDERFUL 2 YR OLD DAUGHTER. ANY IMNFORMATION WILL HELP. WE ARE BEING EVICTED. GOD BLESS.”

This was an email we had received from Jessi, a hard-working mom wanting to do right by her children. With your support, Family Promise was able to hold off their eviction and help both dad and mom secure employment. With a few gas cards, the cost of a background check, and some congregational funds to match what the family could put toward their back rent, this family was able to *stay* in their apartment of almost three years. Family Promise kept this family together and out of homelessness. We received this email when working with them:



“Amazing things keep happening. Things keep looking up. Family Promise is amazing. **Everything looks promising and we are so grateful for all the help.** We couldn’t have done it without you”

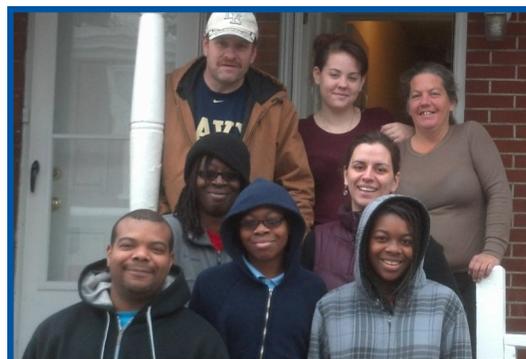
~ A Community-Based Success Story

“Most helpful at Family Promise was that our relationship as a couple became stronger. Sometimes it is frustrating when bad things happen, like being homeless, but as a couple with a toddler, we decided to stay together. And it made our relationship stronger.”

- Graduate Dad

“My husband and I ran into financial difficulties when he was looking for work [after being laid off] and I lost my job. We fell behind in rent and wound up losing our house. We had our daughter and grandson with us. With nowhere to really go, I began looking into shelters but was told basically the same thing: ‘*We only take people with addictions*’, or ‘*we can take you and the kids, but your husband would have to go to another place*’. After being married for 20 years, we had to split up?! We found two family shelters. The first place ran a credit report and said our credit wasn’t good enough for their program. The other place said my daughter was too old. We were frustrated.

We were finally put in touch with Family Promise. The volunteers made sure we had everything we needed to be stress free and they made sure I got back from work every night no matter what time I got done. During the day my husband plugged away at job hunting. Finally, month and a half later he landed not one but **two** job opportunities. He actually had to decide which job to take! We talked everyday how it didn’t seem real. In just a few months, we were on our way to independence again.



Our whole time at Family Promise, we were never pressured or worried about ending up back on the streets. **We were determined to win and Family Promise was determined to help us.** There were no empty promises. Everything they said they would do they did. Here we are almost one year later still enjoying our independence with Family Promise still with us. My husband’s job went full-time with benefits and I continue to work my same job. Our daughter is working and now seriously looking into going back to school. Our grandson is doing wonderfully too.”

~ A Graduate Success Story

Family Promise of Northern New Castle County, Inc.

501 (c) 3 non-profit organization

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