



"Bringing Families Home. . .

Keeping Families Together"

e-Newsletter  
May 2022

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### A Child's Future Begins at Home

Spring is upon us. The season of new beginnings and rebirth. Looking out on the beauty of the Shenandoah Valley we see levels of green across the mountains. As the altitude increases the trees at those highest elevations must work a little harder to awaken from their winter slumber. How fortunate we are that each spring they are given another opportunity to bloom and bless us with their beauty.

At Family Promise we work with many families who, like those trees, need another chance to bloom. We firmly believe that everyone deserves a second chance and sometimes a third one. So is the story of our former guest, Heather.

Heather came to Family Promise as a guest during the Church Rotation model. She exited the program when she was able to move into her own apartment. However, as life sometimes does, it threw Heather a curveball and she lost that home. She remained in touch with Family Promise staff during that time but wasn't ready to return to the program. Eventually she went back to jail. This was obviously part of God's plan for her, as Heather found a new direction for life while she was there. A life changing moment came when the Sheriff got down on his knees and prayed with her. He saw that she was ready and God gave her another chance.



## Partner Churches

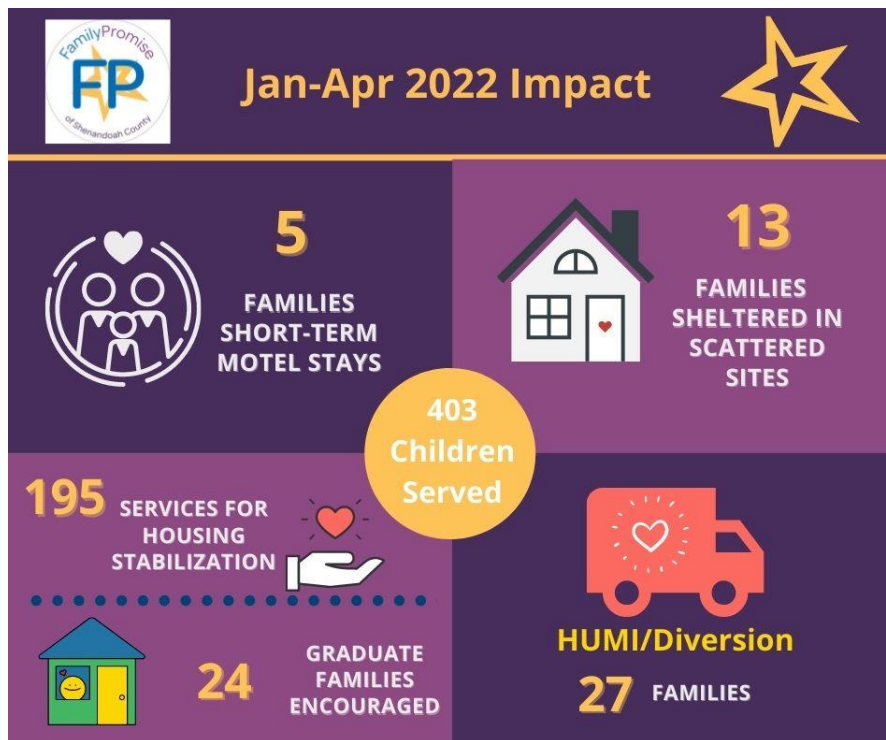
All Soul's Anglican Church  
Antioch Church  
Christ United Church of Christ  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints - Woodstock  
Columbia Furnace Church of the Brethren  
Columbia Furnace United Methodist Church  
Community Mission Church of the Brethren  
Conicville-Hamburg Charge UCC  
Edinburg Lutheran Parish  
Edinburg Christian Church  
Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
First Baptist Church of Woodstock  
First Church of Columbia Furnace  
Grace United Church of Christ  
Lebanon Lutheran Church  
Maurertown Brethren Church  
Mt. Hebron United Methodist Church  
Mt. Hermon United Methodist Church  
Mt. Zion Lutheran Church – New Market  
Mt. Zion Lutheran Church – Woodstock  
New Market Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
Oak Level Church  
Our Lady of the Shenandoah Catholic Church  
Reasoning Tree Church  
Reformation Lutheran Church  
Round Hill Church of the Brethren

Heather's success was recognized when she was asked to serve on the Lived Experience Panel at the recent Northern Shenandoah Valley Housing Coalition's Summit. During the panel discussion Heather credited her relationship with Family Promise in helping her get back on her feet and continually supporting her during her journey to self sufficiency. At age 37, she told her story like this:

In life I have overcome addiction, homelessness, depression, & prostitution. I am a domestic violence survivor. I've lost custody of my children. I am a recovering drug addict.

Today, I live as a child of God. I now provide stable housing for three of my children. I work a good job, paying my own bills. I'm not a liar or a person that has to break promises...today I love myself. I love the person who God says that I am!

Just like those trees on the mountain, we are fortunate that Heather was given the opportunity to grow and bless us with her strength and beauty. God knew her time had come and gave her another chance!



**Partner Churches  
(cont.)**

Saumsville Christian Church  
 Shenandoah Community Fellowship  
 St. Andrews Episcopal Church  
 St. John Bosco Catholic Church  
 St. Johns United Methodist Church  
 St. Johns UCC  
 Hamburg St. Luke Brethren Church  
 St. Paul's I UCC  
 St. Luke's UCC  
 "County Line" St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
 Strasburg Assembly of God  
 Strasburg Christian Church  
 Strasburg Presbyterian Church  
 Strasburg United Methodist Church  
 Trinity United Church of Christ  
 Valley Central Church  
 Valley Pike Church of the Brethren  
 Virginia Hills Church of Woodstock  
 Wakemans Grove Church of the Brethren  
 Walkers Chapel Church  
 Waterbrook Brethren Church  
 Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church  
 Woodstock Christian Church  
 Woodstock Presbyterian Church  
 Woodstock United Methodist Church  
 Zion Christian Church  
 Zion Lutheran Church - Mt. Jackson



**Shampoo  
 Conditioner  
 Body Wash  
 Laundry Detergent  
 Dryer Sheets  
 Paper Towels**

**Dish Liquid  
 Glass Cleaner  
 Small boxes of 13 gallon trash bags  
 Mops  
 Buckets**



## Corporate Sponsors



# Thank you

## STEAK DINNER SPONSORS

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Saumsville Christian Womens Fellowship  
Pot Town Organics LLC

In-Kind Donations  
Valley Health - SMH \* Appalachian Freight  
Starbucks \* Bimbo Bakeries



**Thanks Suzie & Woodstock Starbucks Team for cleaning up our playground & flower beds. You Rock!!**

### FPSC 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Golf Tournament Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup> Bryce Resort



Shotgun Start at Noon  
4 Person Scramble  
\$100 per golfer  
\$400 per four-man team  
**SAVE THE DATE!**



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