November 2026

# NEWSLETTER

FamilyPromise of Shenandoah County









## A note from our Executive Director

Each family who comes through our doors brings a unique story: the challenges they have faced, the people they love, and their hopes for their family's future. The relationships we build with them are at the heart of our work.

During our recent 10th Anniversary Celebration, two former guests shared their stories. As they spoke, we were reminded just how deeply personal those stories of success are. For Amber, success meant celebrating her sobriety, reuniting with her children, and becoming the mom she wanted to be. Earning her GED and finding employment let her support her family and gave her renewed confidence. As she spoke, the bond she formed with our case manager, Holly, was evident. For Josh, success meant finding someone who believed in him. He had struggled with addiction, incarceration, and bridges burned. Josh spoke about the relationships he built at Family Promise and how they helped him become the man and father he wondered if he could ever be. As he put it, "They helped me get my life together. They kept their promise. Today, I am proud of the man I have become. Family Promise will always be a part of my story."

Our guests teach us that homelessness is a chapter, not an identity. Determination and courage are what move their stories forward. Our role is to walk alongside them, offering support, encouragement, and sometimes a little bit of tough love.

Wishing you peace,

Kelly

Ecclesiastes 4:9–10: "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up."

## Stay in Touch


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*"Bringing families home... keeping families together"*

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# Case Manager's Corner



With Thanksgiving quickly approaching, we want to give thanks for the opportunity to walk alongside the incredible woman pictured. Amber entered our shelter program in September 2022. Over the past few years, our staff has stood by her side, watching her achieve great things and sharing in both her tears and her laughter.
At our recent 10-year celebration, Amber stepped far outside of her comfort zone to share her story. A few days before the event, she shared a moment of raw honesty: "I'm terrified, but I have to do this to continue to grow as a recovering addict and as a mom."
With her permission, we are honored to share her full speech with you below. The entire staff at Family Promise is deeply proud of how far she has come, and we look forward to seeing all the great things that come next for her and her family.

"Good evening, everyone. My name is Amber, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to share my story and thank the people who helped me get here.
For 20 years, I lived in active addiction. During that time, I lost custody of my children. I was a high school dropout, bouncing from place to place without a stable home. There was so much in my life that needed to change, and rebuilding it felt overwhelming.
I went to rehab twice. My recovery wasn't a straight path, and going back a second time meant trying again when my first attempt hadn't gotten me where I needed to be. After my second time in rehab, I had help that made a lasting difference. Family Promise gave me a place to stay, helped me learn to manage my money, and encouraged me to keep going. Having housing meant I could begin working toward stability. Learning to manage money gave me skills I needed to maintain it. And their encouragement helped me face the next step, even when the whole journey felt like too much.
I want to thank Holly, Kelly, and everyone else at Family Promise. You saw someone worth helping when my life was still a work in progress. You gave me the opportunity to build something better, and you kept encouraging me not to give up.
To my family and my spouse: thank you for standing beside me as I worked to rebuild my life. Recovery takes daily effort, and having people who support you makes a difference that is hard to put into words. Your love and encouragement have meant so much to me.
Today, I have custody of my children. I have earned my GED. I have a home, and I have a career. Those may sound like a short list of accomplishments, but each one represents work, patience, and a part of my life I once wasn't sure I could get back.
Having my children with me means I have the chance to show up for them every day.
Earning my GED means I finished something I had left behind. Having a home means we have stability. And having a career means I can help provide for my family and keep building our future.
I am proud of the work I have done. I also know I would not be where I am today without Family Promise, my family, and my spouse. I had to take the steps, but I had people helping me find my footing.
I'm sharing my story because there may be someone who needs to hear that trying again is worth it. Going back for help is worth it. The next small step is worth it, even when you cannot yet picture where it will lead.
And to everyone who supports Family Promise, I hope my story helps you understand what that support can mean. For me, it meant a place to stay, practical skills, encouragement, and the chance to work toward the life I have today.
Holly, Kelly, everyone at Family Promise, and my family: thank you for being part of my recovery and my future. Thank you for helping me reach a place where I can stand here, with my children back in my care, and tell this story.
And thank you all for listening."



~ Holly

# 10th Anniversary Celebration - Thank you

We extend heartfelt thanks to our incredible community for supporting Family Promise of Shenandoah County's 10th Anniversary Celebration.
To everyone who attended, volunteered, sponsored, donated, or helped spread the word—your generosity and enthusiasm made this milestone truly special. We are grateful for the many ways you showed up to celebrate and support our mission.
Thank you to our former guests who spoke and shared their stories of transformation. Your openness and the courage needed to share such personal journeys gave the celebration deeper meaning. Your voices reminded us why this work matters, and we are honored that you chose to share your experiences with our community.
This anniversary is more than a celebration of ten years—it is a tribute to the compassion, commitment, and partnerships that make our work possible. Together, we are helping families build brighter futures filled with hope and opportunity.
Thank you for being part of our Family Promise family. We look forward to continuing this journey with you, bringing children home and keeping families housed.
Wishing you peace,
Kelly

## 3rd Annual Turkey Trot

### Registration information

Our 3rd annual Turkey Trot is right around the corner. Come run or walk with us on November 21st at Shenandoah County Park in Maurertown.
Register online here or stop by our office during regular business hours to register in person.
Registration will remain open for our 3rd Annual Turkey Trot until race day, **however**, we cannot guarantee that you will receive a T-shirt if registered after November 11th.
• Ages 13 and up: $35 • Ages 12 and under: $25
Can't join us at the Park on November 21st? No problem! Consider our virtual option and participate wherever you are.
Come celebrate the season with us while helping support local families.




**November 21st starting at 9am**
**Shenandoah County Park**
**Mauertown, VA**

## OUR STAFF

| | |
|---|---|
| EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | KELLY STOREY |
| CASE MANAGER | HOLLY TAFF |
| OUTREACH COORDINATOR | JENNIFER DUFNER |
| OFFICE MANAGER | DONNA CRABILL |

**Family Promise of Shenandoah County has been named the 2025 Nonprofit of the Year!**




## 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | |
|---|---|
| PRESIDENT | LIBBY ROCCO |
| VICE PRESIDENT | KATHERINE MORRISON |
| SECRETARY | KIM SHRUM |
| TREASURER | DIANE PENCE |

NORMA BARB, ALESIA FOLTZ,
DALE BOWERS, RICK KESSLER, WALT MORGAN,
KIRK ANDREWS, CHRIS ELBON

## October 2026: COST OF SERVICES

| service | amount | families | children |
|---|---|---|---|
| utilities | $543.04 | 2 | 5 |
| rent | $4,443.00 | 5 | 13 |
| move in | $807.00 | 1 | 1 |
| motels | $0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| child care | $139.35 | 1 | 2 |
| other | $0.00 | | |
| shelter | $3,227.00 | 3 | 5 |
| food | $587.00 | 20 | 43 |
| Total | $9,746.39 | 32 | 69 |