



"Bringing Families Home. . .
Keeping Families Housed"

e-Newsletter
May 2020

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Program at a Glance

2020 YTD Statistics

5

Guest Families

4

Families
Transitional Housing

11

Families
After-Care

1

H.U.S.H.
Family



Message from Sherry

And this too shall come to an end....but what will our world look like when it passes? We are still in the early days of understanding the impacts this pandemic will have upon families but what is clear is that those who have the least ability to withstand this emergency will be those who are most devastated. I have often talked about the inability of most families to weather one crisis, let alone more than one. Job loss, health issues, marital/family stress or housing issues can leave a family homeless.

Now the pandemic is creating a perfect storm of these impacts on local families. We have not seen the full measure of this pandemic on our community. But with your help, Family Promise of Shenandoah County will be ready once again to shelter families and provide love and support to the family members. It's what we do; it's what we have always done! Thank you for staying in touch with us and please contact me if you have any questions.

Sherry Arey
Executive Director



2019 Statistics

16

Families Served

51

Individuals Served

25

Adults Served

26

Children Served

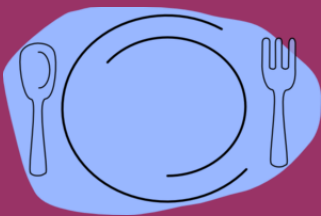
18

Children 5 & Under



5,212

Meals Provided



2,606

Safe Nights



9,500+

Volunteer Hours



Case Manager's Corner

Wow, things have certainly changed since I sat down to write my last month's CMC, not only for me personally, but in providing case management to our families. We now have four transitional housing units: Three in Woodstock, and the fourth is in New Market. I am learning how to provide case management services in a totally different fashion! Most of my contact is by texting, emails, and FaceTime. I just recently started doing some actual face-to-face time, at a safe distance of course; and I always carry my little bottle of hand sanitizer wherever I go and wear my mask as well. Having that face-to-face contact means a lot to the families. They enjoy the 'company'! Each family is handling the "COVID-19 era" as best as can be expected.

Amanda and Maverick continue to do well. Amanda is still working but had her full-time hours reduced to 30 last week. She got a bit side-tracked in her training to become a Certified Medical Assistant. LFCC suspended classes, but her professor has been able to change the format to online learning. Needless to say Amanda is playing 'catch-up' with her classes; she is happy to be able to continue working on her goal to becoming a CMA this year.

Maranda and Amy are doing well too. Maranda started a new job at the beginning of the quarantine stage and is still there; however, right now she is only working three days a week. She did have an interview last week at a local nursing home and is waiting to hear back from them. Amy has been helping around the apartment and is learning to do more cooking—she even made dinner for her mother last week!

Ashley, Frankie, Cameron, and Gracie are enjoying their new apartment. Frankie is still working and has also had a promotion to a supervisory role! We bought fencing earlier this year to put up around the yard and Frankie has made an enclosed area for the kids to get fresh air and play—they are really enjoying the space. Sherry dropped off some outdoor toys for the kids last week and Ashley was so surprised the next morning! I love the fact that they live close to Maranda and Amy--there are many times I call Maranda and she says they are there visiting with Ashley, Frankie and the kids!

Dakota, Caitlin and Bryce are in the New Market apartment and are adjusting very well. Dakota is still employed; Caitlin and Bryce are enjoying getting the apartment to their liking. Caitlin is also doing some babysitting to help out. She sends me cute pictures of Bryce sleeping away or doing cute little boys things! Dakota enjoys helping Ashley and Frankie out by taking Ashley to the grocery store when she needs groceries.

Diane Wittreich



Cameron "delivering" the honeydew melon for his mom.

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Family Promise of Shenandoah County

#GivingTuesdayNow
#ShenCoGives
May 5, 2020

Help families with children stay housed so they can get a good night's sleep!

- \$20 pays for a gas card
- \$50 pays for work boots
- \$100 pays for a moving truck
- \$200 pays for a week in a hotel
- \$500 pays for a week of case management for 15 families

BRINGING FAMILIES HOME - KEEPING FAMILIES HOUSED

SCF Jumps into Action During Pandemic

Shenandoah Community Foundation established a COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund for Shenandoah County to meet the emergency needs of community members who have been impacted by the pandemic. President Michael Funk stated, "We are concerned about the welfare of our Shenandoah County residents and want to help meet the greatest needs in our community as we experience the growing impact from the coronavirus. Together we will face and overcome this challenge."

Thank you for your grant to FCPS!



OPEN DOORS
Warmth, shelter and support for our homeless

NOW HIRING:
Executive Director

RESUMES & 3 REFERENCES CAN BE SUBMITTED BY APRIL 30

BY EMAIL:
lee_jackson@cargill.com

BY MAIL:
Open Doors
PO Box 1804 Harrisonburg, VA 22803

Host Churches & Organizations

All Souls Anglican Church/
Community Mission
Church of the Brethren

Antioch Church of the
Brethren

Buttonwood Lodge/
Camp Caroline Furnace

Lebanon Lutheran Church

Mt. Hermon United
Methodist Church

New Market Seventh-Day
Adventist Church

St. John Bosco Catholic
Church

St. John's United
Methodist Church

Shenandoah Valley Teen
Challenge

Shrine Mont

Strasburg Assembly of God

Strasburg Christian
Church

Valley Pike Church of the
Brethren

Wakemans Grove Church
of the Brethren



HELP US STABILIZE HOUSING (H.U.S.H.)

This is a new initiative for FPSC and is certainly timely as we are experiencing the “stay-at-home” directives. It is imperative that families are enabled to stay housed to stay healthy. We have received several grants to fund this part of our program. They can, and are, being utilized to help families pay for rent, utilities, car insurance, food, phone minutes, fuel for their vehicles, and many other items. This assistance is available for all of our graduate families as well as others in our community who are in need at this time. If you know folks who need a helping hand, please have them call us at 540-459-4599.



AMERICAN WOODMARK

Many thanks to the American Woodmark Foundation for their recent generous donation to FPSC to support families facing homelessness!



Thanks to Laurie Sine, local Discovery Toys representative, for providing Easter baskets for the three little ones in Transitional Housing. She said she wanted to give back to her community.



On This Memorial Day

Remember those who served before.
Remember those who are no more.
Remember those who serve today.
Remember them as we eat and play.
Remember our protectors-
who are not home today.

-Emily Toma

Prayer from The Upper Room....God of joy, remind us of our beauty in times when we feel vulnerable and fragile. Guide us to be hands of healing to those experiencing difficulties, and give us a song of joy to sing even as we cry. In Jesus' name - Amen