



August 2025



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Monthly Newsletter

Executive Director's Update



In Paul's letter to the Philippians he highlights the importance of expressing gratitude and acknowledging the positive impact others have on our lives. Growing up in a family that emphasized this shaped my outlook on life in meaningful ways. From an early age, my siblings and I were encouraged to say "thank you" not only for gifts, but for everyday kindnesses. Our parents taught us that gratitude isn't just good manners; it's recognizing the efforts of others and appreciating what you have rather than focusing on what you lack. As a result, showing gratitude has become a natural and enriching part of my relationships and daily life.

At Family Promise, we help people who may not always show gratitude. However, kindness and support shouldn't be contingent on receiving thanks. While appreciation feels good, our actions are guided by our values and compassion, not the expectation of recognition. When people are struggling and overwhelmed, they are often unable to express their gratitude, but that doesn't mean they don't appreciate help or deserve less kindness. That simple act—just asking, "How can I help?"—without judgement, with real action—makes them feel seen and valued.

These are the moments in life when a single act of kindness changes the direction of someone's journey. Being there when it is most needed and helping someone rediscover their strengths reminds them of the good in people. This month's Case Manager's Corner shares a letter of gratitude Holly recently received. It reminds us that kindness has a ripple effect. It reminds us of our feeling of gratitude for those we serve at Family Promise each day and for all of you and your ongoing support of our mission.

Philippians 1:3 I thank God every time I remember you.

Wishing you peace,

Kelly

In this
newsletter:

Latest news, and more.

Keep Reading!



Case Manager's Corner

At Family Promise, our Eviction Prevention program is a lifeline for families struggling to maintain housing. Unexpected hardships like reduced work hours, job loss, illness, injury, or car repairs can quickly jeopardize a family's stability, as many live paycheck-to-paycheck without a safety net.

Between January 1st and July 31st eviction was successfully prevented for 32 families, keeping 70 children safely housed.

Many of the families we assist are successful because of our dedicated community partnerships. Communities working together can have a powerful impact supporting families in crisis. You can see evidence of this in the following email received by a family recently assisted through our Eviction Prevention program:

I can't thank you and Rose enough. Her prayer for me has really touched my heart! I haven't stopped thinking about it! She told me to keep her updated so I'm going to give her a call and let her know you all were able to help me. Thank you so much from the bottom of my heart!!! This is a huge help and I greatly appreciate it! I know you mentioned my rent is more than you all normally help with so please thank whoever is allowing this for me! My stress levels are through the roof trying to stay as current as I possibly can. This definitely helps! My dad was worried about my stress going into my next surgery so this definitely helps elevated a lot of it. I'm very thankful and very grateful for your company doing this for me! Thank you so much again!!

Holly



July 2025 Cost for Services provided

JULY 2025				
service	amount	families	children	Column 5
utilities	\$0.00			
rent	\$5,604.00	7	11	
move in	\$0.00			
motels	\$0.00			
child care	\$0.00			
other	\$0.00			
shelter	\$3,991.84	3	10	
food	\$588.62	10	21	
Total	\$10,184.46	20	42	



6th Annual Golf Tournament

*Thanks to our participants,
sponsors and volunteers. Our
Golf Tournament was a huge
success!*



Family Promise of Shenandoah County, Inc. (the Organization) is a non-profit, non-stock corporation located in Shenandoah County, Virginia. The Organization's support comes primarily from the general public and special events. Family Promise of Shenandoah County (FPSC) is an affiliate of a national organization that was established in 1986. The mission of FPSC is to provide food, shelter and support to children and their families who lack a place to live through a network of local congregations and organizations.

FPSC opened in January of 2016 and welcomed their first family on February 3, 2016. Upon opening, host site volunteers provided meals and a place for the guest families to sleep. Each host site had the family for one week every three months. With the onset of the Covid 19 virus/global pandemic, housing guest families could no longer be handled through churches.

FPSC now leases five apartments/houses in a "Scattered Site" model wherein guest families are housed in apartments or houses until such time as they seek permanent housing. Families work with the Director and Case Manager(s) to set goals for employment, budgeting their income and developing a plan to move into permanent housing. FPSC also has programs to help families stay housed – the stabilization and eviction prevention programs assist families with rent and utility payments so the families can stay in their house or apartment. FPSC works with many agencies in Shenandoah County such as RESPONSE, Pregnancy Center, Healthy Families and the Alliance for Shelter to help families attain permanent housing, employment and other necessary skills/services. Family Promise of Shenandoah County's goal is to provide families with basic needs so the adults can focus on gaining employment and permanent housing while their children enjoy a stable living environment with caring adults. Follow-up services and supports are provided to families after they find permanent housing.



Many Thanks to Our Landlord Partners

Ed & Ruth Aumiller
Peggy Smoot
Zion Lutheran Church

Let's get acquainted

Diane Pence
Treasurer



Diane Pence is the treasurer for Family Promise of Shenandoah County. She was born and raised in Northern Virginia but has lived in the Shenandoah Valley for the last 36 years. She retired from Winchester Medical Center in 2015 as an IT system administrator. After retiring, she joined Family Promise of Shenandoah County first as an employee and now as a board member. Our mission is personal for her, after seeing extended family members experience the trauma of homelessness.

Diane is an active member of Antioch Covenant Brethren Church (one of the original 13 host churches) and was recently licensed to the ministry in the Covenant Brethren Church. Diane is married to Guy Pence. She has one son who lives in Murfreesboro, TN. In her spare time she enjoys traveling, bird watching and spending time with family and friends. Diane is also a history enthusiast and likes researching family history.

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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WISHLIST

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SMALL DISHWASHING SOAP
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KITCHEN SIZED TRASH BAGS



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