



“Bringing Families Home. . .
Keeping Families Housed”

e-Newsletter
November 2021

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Program at a Glance

2021 YTD Statistics

14 Guest Families

**13 Families
Scattered Shelter**

17 Families Forward

**300 Services
Housing Stabilization**

**23 HUMI/Diversion
Families**

**309
Children
Served**



Website: shenandoahfamilypromise.org

Email: info@shenandoahfamilypromise.org

A CHILD’S FUTURE BEGINS AT HOME

For many, the period from early October, and a particular Friday in late November, marks the beginning of the holiday frenzy. Parties, shopping, and baking consume our time. We focus on the hoopla known as the holiday season.

Getting caught up in all of the excitement makes it easy to forget that November also brings the season of gratitude. The time when we gather with family and friends around the Thanksgiving table. We give thanks, watch football, and consume copious amounts of pie! A warm home, a healthy family, and a secure job reminds us we are blessed. We can easily express that God is good...all the time!

However, there are times when even the blessed among us may find it difficult to show gratitude. The schedules we keep often lead to challenges and worry. We look at the world around us and wonder if things could get worse. We lose people we love and struggle to imagine life without them. It is in these times that we are thankful for a God who carries us through dark times.

Our guest families are going through dark times when they come to our door struggling to find gratitude in their current situation. It is the God of blessings who helps us help them regain their self-worth and find a reason to be thankful. Employment, a home and food for their family, a reliable vehicle, and a hand to help them when they stumble are all reasons they give thanks.



2020 Statistics

13 Guest Families

**5 Families
Transitional
Housing**

**11 Families
Forward**

**181 Services
Housing
Stabilization**

14 HUMI Families

**145
Children
Served**



Thanks that extends not only to FPSC. But thanks to a community that has helped this organization not just exist, but flourish, in Shenandoah County for five years! We are blessed indeed!

I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with Thanksgiving. Psalm 69:30

Greetings from Elizabeth

Hello! I just wanted to write and say how thankful I am for FPSC and the opportunity of being the Service Access Coordinator. I learned so much from working with the organization, the families, and the community. I know that the memories I made during my time at FPSC will stay with me forever.

Since leaving FPSC, I have moved to Fairfax County and have accepted a job working for two elementary schools as their Family Liaison. I love this position so far and continue to learn everyday how I can better support the families, the school, and the community. With having the experience of working at Family Promise, I find myself confidently being able to communicate with families, empowering them, and assisting them in any way possible. Another big part of my position is working with the specialists within the schools - the counselors, social workers, psychologists, and many others. I continue to recognize the impact that working collaboratively has on a community, which is also something I loved about Family Promise!

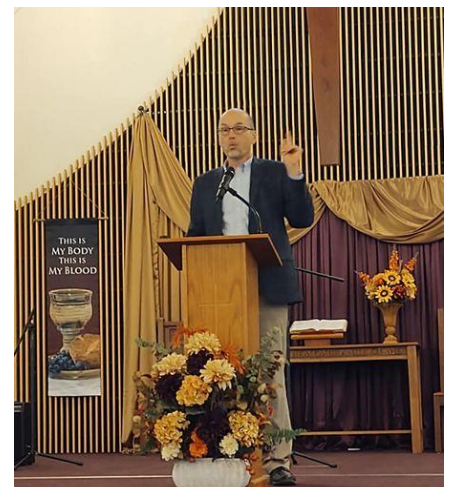


Elizabeth's last day at FPSC

L. to R.: Sherry, Diane W., Elizabeth, Kelly, Diane P., and Donna

Family Promise Week – Fifth Anniversary Celebration

Thanks to everyone who came to the Celebration on Sunday. It was a very special day with guest families (Heather, Alex, and Eileen), staff and board members talking about FPSC from their viewpoints. Claas Ehlers, CEO of Family Promise National, was our special guest speaker – pictured in photo. If you weren't able to attend, you can view the service by clicking [this link](#). We enjoyed visiting with friends at the Open House on Thursday and were happy to make some new connections!



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Thank you to the staff of Shenandoah Alliance for Shelter for decorating one of the scattered shelter site apartments.

Bottom right photo, left to right: Meghan, Janice, Katie, BJ

Thanks go to the following for providing prizes & In-Kind Donations for the 2021 Golf Tournament:

Edward Jones – Tracy Carter
Anytime Fitness
Route 11 Potato Chips
Bowling Green Country Club
Blue Ridge Shadows
Cacapon Resort State Park
Woodstock Café
Domino's Pizza
North Mountain Winery
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Sarah Treese
Thrivent
Caverns Country Club
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Bryce Resort
Mulligan's Golf Center
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Randy's Hardware
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Host Churches & Organizations

All Souls Anglican Church/
Community Mission
Church of the Brethren

Antioch Church of the
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Buttonwood Lodge/
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Lebanon Lutheran Church

Mt. Hermon United
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New Market Seventh-Day
Adventist Church

St. John Bosco Catholic
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St. John's United
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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



Special Opportunity To Support FPSC With Tax Advantages For You:

If you are over 70½ years of age, the tax laws allow you to donate all or part of your IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to a church or charity and you won't have to pay any taxes on the amount you give. A Qualifying Charitable Distribution (QCD) allows you to donate up to \$100,000 per year directly to your church or qualified charity from your IRA and exclude it from your income, and thus your tax liability. The donation has to go directly from your IRA to your church or charity and cannot come to you and then be given. It must go directly. The money or stocks must be drawn directly from an IRA and must go directly from the IRA institution (Schwab, Fidelity, etc) to the church or charity. You, the account holder, should never touch the money.

Example: Jane is an active and generous 73 year old who gives to her favorite charity regularly. After retiring a few years back, she has a substantial nest egg in her IRA. The Required Minimum Distribution from her IRA (the minimum amount the government requires her to withdraw and pay taxes on this year) is \$30,000. Jane will use \$20,000 toward her living expenses but wants to donate the rest. She will send the funds directly from her individual IRA to the charity to make her donation. Since the funds go directly from her IRA to the church, it never hits her bank account and therefore it is not included in her annual adjusted gross income, thus giving her a nice charitable deduction and she is able to advance Jesus' work as well. If you have questions, speak to your financial advisor or tax consultant.



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Your church can support us by:

- Praying for our families, staff & board members
- Providing financial support: budget line-item, guest needs fund, shelter units (scattered shelter sites & motel stays)
- Collecting items for [Welcome Home Kits](#)

