



“Bringing Families Home. . .
Keeping Families Housed”

e-Newsletter
June 2021

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Woodstock, VA 22664

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Program at a Glance

2021 YTD Statistics

6 Guest Families

**7 Families
Transitional Housing**

15 Families Forward

**76 Services
Housing Stabilization**

**9 HUMI/Diversion
Families**



Website: shenandoahfamilypromise.org

Email: info@shenandoahfamilypromise.org

Message from Sherry

The phone has been ringing off the hook the last few weeks! We are thankful to be here to help so many families in need. We appreciate all your on-going support! Thank you for putting your love into action in so many ways.

Be sure to check out the Night Without a Bed promotional video filmed by Jason & Kodi Wright and their family & friends!

<https://vimeo.com/548578338>.

Sherry Arey





2020 Statistics

13 Guest Families

**5 Families
Transitional
Housing**

**11 Families
Forward**

**181 Services
Housing
Stabilization**

14 HUMI Families

**145
Children
Served**



Case Manager's Corner

Dakota, Caitlin and Bryce (then 3 1/2 months old) came into our Shelter Program mid-January 2020. Dakota found a job by the end of their first 30 days. Within 2 months they moved into one of our Transitional Housing apartments Dakota was able to work throughout the COVID shutdown. Caitlin also found a job working in food service. They continued to live in our TH apartment until early December 2020 when they rented a house in the county.

I continue to be in contact with them. Next month their family size will increase to four when they welcome Baby Grace to the family! Watch for photos next month.

Diane Wittreich

A Child's Future Begins at Home

The online magazine, *Mental Floss*, recently contained an article discussing the seven scientific benefits of helping others. Developing a sense of satisfaction, feeling happy, etc... were listed. Those seemed pretty obvious to me. However, when I began to think about why helping others was so important to us here at Family Promise, I found my answer.

ALTRUISM IS CONTAGIOUS.

When one person performs a good deed, it causes a chain reaction of other altruistic acts. One study found that people are more likely to perform feats of generosity after observing another do the same. This effect can ripple throughout the community, inspiring dozens of individuals to make a difference.

It made me want to cry out, "THAT'S IT!" When we work as a community to help others, we start an amazing cycle of generosity! During this interesting year, we have experienced this cycle over and over. Due to your generosity, the lives of dozens of families have been changed for the better.

Last week I found the following note on my desk. It served as a reminder that sharing our blessings is always a good idea!

To All of Family Promise,

In 31 years I have never had a place that I could honestly call a home. I believe in my heart that no matter the things I may face, I know I won't fail now. Myself and my family appreciate everything you guys have done for us. We love you all. Family Promise has helped me get something I have always wanted...a family of my own and y'all are included!

Love,
J and Family

NIGHT WITHOUT A BED

Board Members

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Sherry Arey, Exec. Director
Kelly Storey, Assoc. Director
& HUMI Coordinator
Diane Wittreich,
Case Manager
Diane Pence,
Outreach Coordinator
Donna Crabill,
Administrative Assistant

WHO: Groups made up of individuals, families, churches, businesses, and community groups (following social distancing guidelines) who want to support Family Promise of Shenandoah County and bring awareness to homelessness in our community.

WHAT: Night Without a Bed is sponsored by Family Promise of Shenandoah County. Participants sleep outside safely in tents, boxes, makeshift shelters, cars or inside on a couch and raise donations for doing so. They are also invited to share in our virtual presentations the night of their sleep out.

WHEN: Saturday, June 26, 2021 OR you can pick your own date between June 19 and July 17, 2021.

WHERE: Wherever you can safely sleep out at your home . . . in your backyard, driveway or in your car. Church groups may use their parking lot. If inside is more your speed, try doubling up inside with no bed of your own, as many families experience when they live with family and friends.

HOW: Sign up to participate: <http://e.givesmart.com/events/kEC>
Check out the resources: www.shenandoahfamilypromise.org

QUESTIONS: Contact Diane Pence
540-459-4599
dianepence@shenandoahfamilypromise.org

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First Bank & Trust Company
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Ortts Electric, Inc.
Sonny & Nancy Tamkin
Valley Towing



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



Great News! Thanks to a special grant, Elizabeth Shoemaker (our former JMU intern), is able to stay on with us for the summer in the role of “Services Access Coordinator.” One of her first duties as a newly minted Bachelor of Social Work is to mentor another JMU intern - Eliza (pictured on the left). Eliza has been hard at work in our emergency food pantry, furnishing our new transitional housing unit, and shadowing our case manager as she meets with guest families.

A big thank you to both of these young women. We are excited to see them grow in their careers!



In Memory

Jessica Graham
Feb. 1, 1982 – Apr. 23, 2021

We were saddened to learn of Jessica’s death. Jessica and John, along with Jessica’s son Seth, were guests at FPSC in 2019.



Corporate Sponsors



Barber D.M.E. Supply Group
We Pride Ourselves On Taking Care Of You - "Body & Soul"



☆ All Invited to an Evening of Fellowship ☆

SUNDAY
JUNE 6 2021

Under The Oaks

4:30PM GAMES, BURGERS, DAWGS, BEANS & HOMEMADE ICE CREAM
PLUS AN OLD FASHIONED CAKE WALK!

6PM **OUTDOOR CONCERT** ☆

Featuring **THE GROVE YOUTH BAND** / With special performance by the **Gospel Brothers**
Under the direction of Libby Rocco

Free-will offering to benefit Family Promise of Shenandoah County
Please bring a blanket or lawn chair for this outdoor event. Info: 540-984-8383

Rain or Shine
Wakeman's Grove Church of the Brethren
668 Wakemans Grove Road, Edinburg, VA

Online Auction

Opens: July 9th, 9:00 am
Closes: July 17th 9:00 pm

How You Can Help

Donate Items: Contact Ellen Bowers 540-325-9362.

Donations accepted until July 2nd.

Handcrafted Items

Theme Baskets

Specialty Items - Collectibles - Getaways/Trips

Sign Up & Bid, Bid, Bid

<http://e.givesmart.com/events/IWU>

Auction Site Preview Starts June 15th

Thank you to everyone who has made donations "In Honor Of" and "In Memory Of" loved ones over the last five years. Remembering these honorees:

Memory

Brook Barrick
Lisa Beasley
Peter Berger
Olga Bodden
Lillian Bowers
Jack Conway
Betty Cook
Ellen Cook
Rupert Dewyer
Dean E. Grant
Jacob Haun, Jr.
Betty Hottel
Don King
Charlie Martin
Joan Miller
Virginia Myers
Mary Peebles
Minnie Richards

Honor

Cele & Ariel
Connie & Phil Fauber
Clara Jane Mumaw 2nd Birthday
Eileen Simmons
Elise & Isaac
Folks at Wakeman's Grove COB
George Bowers
George Bowers & Kim Shrum
Guy & Diane Pence Wedding
Hazel Jasper's 90th Birthday
Heather Conway
Joyce Rush, Linda Olson & Phyllis Litton
Kent & Maria Jeter
Lesley Bowyer, Barbara Garber, Libby
Rocco & Kay Townshend
Libby Rocco
Mackenzie Jenkins' Birthday
Maria & Brandon Steiner
Mary
Mary Ann & Roger Barbee
Mission Work Groups at Mt. Calvary UCC
Rachel Pestilli
Ritenour Grandchildren & the glory of
Jesus Christ