



Family Promise[®] of Genesee County

Winter 2017
Issue 9

BUILDING COMMUNITIES. STRENGTHENING LIVES.

Dear Friends,

Changes are in the air for 2017!

Retiring from our Board this year are Susan Pollard, Reba Walling and Kris Burns. We extend a warm thank you to these members. They were an invaluable part of beginning Family Promise of Genesee County.

I am excited to announce the installation of our 2017 Board of Directors Officers, following our election. Jim Distelrath will serve as Vice President, Michael Evrard as Treasurer and Sonja Markwart as Secretary. I am honored to continue serving as President. I seek your input with the addition of new members. We are fortunate to have an outstanding collection of board members and we are looking to grow!

With every addition to our Board, Family Promise moves one step closer to ending family homelessness in Genesee County. Do you (or someone you know) have a few hours to give each month, to help a family escape the shaky foundation on which they rest?

Board meetings are held every other month at Calvary UMC, in Flint. Additionally, we host two special fundraising events per year. We encourage our board members to assist in the fundraising process by opening doors for our Development Director with their contacts of friends, family and business associates. Our two special events raise close to 75% of our annual budget. Most members find that talking about their passion for Family Promise with people they already know is easy. Since our shelter model is so unique, people are intrigued and want to know more. Our participating families work hard to end their housing crisis and use us as a hand-up, during the crisis. As they work to build a solid

financial ground, our Director and Social Workers give them support and guidance needed to achieve their goals.

Homelessness can affect anyone. Our families are hard working, the parents are often employed, the kids go to school, to practices, and do chores just like any other family. In our three short years, we have housed families from every city in Genesee County. We are seeking Board members with a heart for helping people that need a hand up. Please give prayerful consideration to this life changing mission. Contact our Day center with any potential persons for our Board at 810-234-9444.

May your lives be filled with blessings!

Sincerely,

Karen Vobach
President

*Thank you for your
dedication & service!!*

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Happy New Year!

A message from the Director

We're happy you're here.

Now let's talk about when you're leaving!

At the end of each year, I generally find myself amazed how quickly the outgoing one seemed. 2017 was no different. This year we celebrate three years as an operating Family Promise affiliate and what an incredible three years it has been. Overall, 29 families have graduated, that's 36 adults and 66 children whose lives have been forever changed by the work you help make possible.

Resolutions and recommitments are popular ways to kick off a new year. But, for our active families, the commitment and resolve remains graduation and sustainability. So, while the calendar continues its forward flip, right now three families are working toward just that.

One of the families, a mom, dad and their six month-old daughter, recently moved to Michigan from Alabama. As you can imagine, the recent polar plunge has been brisk for them! The mom was raised here but this is dad's first foray into Winter. During the first snowfall, he happened to be outside when I pulled into the Day Center; he seemed almost enchanted by the fat flakes floating to the ground. He proclaimed Winter wasn't so bad and he was excited to be in Michigan for a snowfall. A few hours later he came in and said, "do you realize the snow is still on the ground?" I laughed! He hasn't really been as enchanted with the snow since then!

I am certain this family will soon be contending with Winter in their OWN place, as a Family Promise of Genesee County graduate. They came in with a plan to get out and that is exactly what drives a family to graduate. Myself and the Case Managers spend a lot of time talking with potential incoming families about their housing goals and future plans and how Family Promise fits into helping them achieve those things.

Our program's focus is a hand-up during a temporary housing crisis. Every case management session focuses on that family's specific goals and action steps toward those outcomes. When successful, the Graduate Program keeps them connected with motivation and encouragement. It's an effective model proven nationally with affiliates across the country. Here in Genesee County, for 2016, we only had one family who did not successfully graduate. In total, 12 families graduated in 2016.

Kindly,

Lindsay Moore

Lindsay Moore



Please join us

For an Evening of
Celebration & Inspiration

Saturday, February 4th, 2017

Black & White

5th Annual Charity Gala

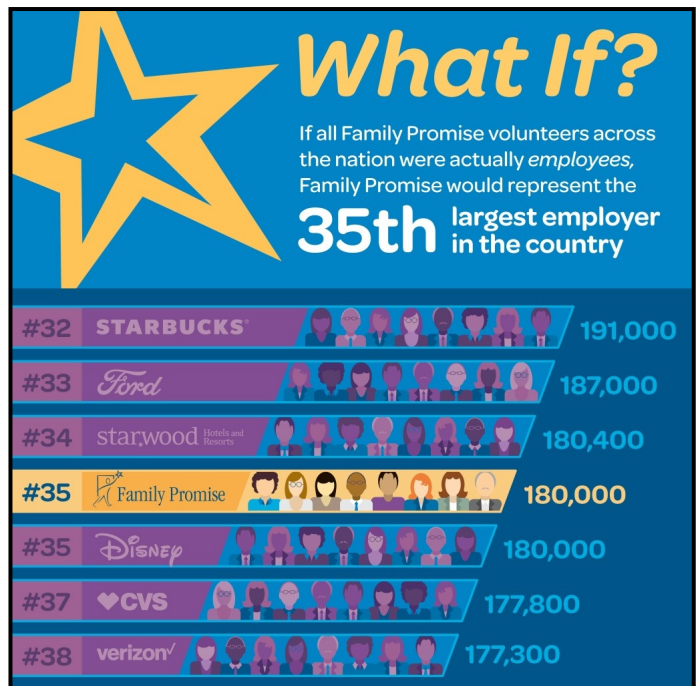


Genesys Banquet Center

805 Health Park Blvd.
Grand Blanc, MI

Black & White Attire
Cocktail Reception at 6:00pm
Dinner at 7:00pm
Tickets \$75

All proceeds support Family Promise of Genesee County.
To purchase tickets or for sponsorship opportunities, contact Nicole Breslin
at 810.234.9444 or email development@familypromiseofgc.org.
For more information, visit our website at www.familypromiseofgc.org.



Snowman Sales Build Big Donation

Dort Federal Credit Union staff members presented Family Promise of Genesee County with an \$8,904.28 donation on January 9th! The very generous donation was a result of the credit union's Annual Snowmen Sales campaign and staff donations. The staff and Dort Federal members selected Family Promise of Genesee County as one of two local beneficiaries.

"Between October 31st and December 10th, we accepted donations to our Snowman Sales campaign, and this is the largest donation amount that we have ever collected, said Deana Turcott, Director of Human Resources for Dort Federal. "This year's generosity from our members and employees has been overwhelmingly positive," said Turcott.

The campaign raised a total of \$17,808.56. Catholic Charities of Genesee and Shiawassee County was the second organization to receive a donation. Dort Federal Credit Union serves nearly 80,000 members, at its locations across the Greater Flint area.



Pictured from right to left: Deana Turcott (Dir. Human Resources, DFCU), Karen Vobach (President, Board of Directors, FPGC), Chris (DFCU Top Seller), Shannon (DFCU Top Seller), Susan (DFCU Top Seller), Vickie Hawkins (President & CEO, DFCU), Lindsay Moore (Dir., FPGC)



P.O. Box 4519 · Flint, MI 48504
(810) 234-9444

To financially support
Family Promise, please visit
www.familypromiseofgc.org/donate

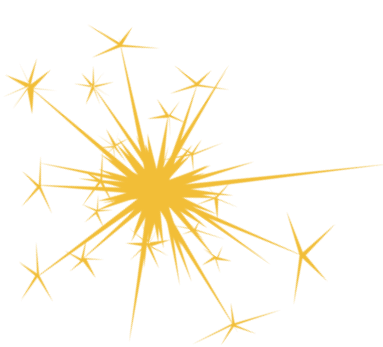
 Follow us on Facebook:
"Family Promise of Genesee County"



6-month-old Adelaide tried a mini-Goldfish baked cracker snack and was NOT a fan!



Family project at the Day Center: two of the moms helped their children plant this grass and it grew! The grass isn't the only thing growing though - our families are showing great growth too! Very exciting all around!



Family Promise of Genesee County is part of a national volunteer-based nonprofit organization founded on the belief that Americans are compassionate people who want to make a difference. We are committed to help low-income and homeless families reclaim and maintain independence.