

Faith In Action

Family Promise of Warren County Newsletter



President's Page

by David Yelton
Board President

It is an exciting and stressful time for Family Promise of Warren County (FPWC). Progress continues, even when a new crop of "I's" to dot or "T's" to cross appears to sidetrack the effort. Regardless, this is all part of progressing towards the goal of having FPWC offices, day center, and shelter program in one location.

The work that started 25 years ago continues to be a critical social service need in Warren County. The pandemic did not derail FPWC efforts to serve homeless families who asked for assistance. Rather, the pandemic made us change the approach to providing services to homeless families, but not the ultimate result for each family. The answer was to house the families in area motel rooms. Allowing host and support church volunteers to demonstrate their love and concern for a homeless neighbor and their children remained a key element of the program. Many included encouraging notes and small gifts for children with the

evening meals that the host or support church also provides.

That effort is not the hands-on experience that volunteers had with the rotational shelter network. FPWC has been asked by some host churches when that rotational network will be reopened. FPWC is willing to restart that form of shelter service for homeless families. However, that rotational network model requires there to be enough churches willing open their church homes, as a temporary home for the homeless, 4 or more weeks each year. FPWC was able to do that 25 years ago, so we know that it is possible.

We also know that, with your help, FPWC will be able to successfully complete all of the steps to achieve the goal of having FPWC offices, day center, and a static site shelter program in one location.

In 2022 FPWC had a total of 2,059.25 volunteer hours serving the new Family Promise Campus!

203 East Warren St.
Lebanon, OH 45036
www.familypromisewarren.org
513.934.5250
facebook.com/IHNWC

FAITH • Hope • Love
Justice • God
peace • Kindness
HOSPITALITY
New Life • *encouragement*
Family

- ### Inside this Issue:
- President's Page
 - Linda's Letter
 - Family Promise Programs
 - Capital Campaign Update
 - Host Recruitment & Retention
 - Coordinator Corner
 - Volunteer & Staff Spotlights
 - Campus Renovation Update
 - Stories of Promise

Linda's Letter

by Linda Rabolt
 FPWC Executive Director

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary shares “that a Volunteer is a person who undertakes or expresses a willingness to undertake a service...”

April is Volunteer Appreciation month. As I look back upon the last 25 years of Family Promise of Warren County and the successes we have enjoyed, I credit this to all of the wonderful volunteers that I have had the pleasure of working with in so many areas.

Volunteers are the foundation of Family Promise of Warren County. From those dedicated and caring people who, under the direction of Pr. Bill Cain of Lebanon Presbyterian Church, more than 25 years ago who saw the need and were determined to solve a problem; to the volunteers who see a similar need and have provided time at our new campus volunteers who express a willingness to undertake a service are present.

At our host and support churches, volunteers provide the meals, the fellowship, and the overnight coverage. And, when COVID struck, our volunteers continued to provide the meals in a much different way. The meals were always plentiful and delicious but now they were delivered to our very appreciative families who live in a local motel. The volunteers could no longer hold a child in their arms, but they continued to love our children with crafts and toys and notes. You see the appreciation for our volunteers throughout this newsletter and in the article written by Danielle who credits the volunteers who loved her and supported her for her current success. Volunteers, the unsung heroes in the lives of our families. Volunteers who don't look for the thank you but change lives

every day.

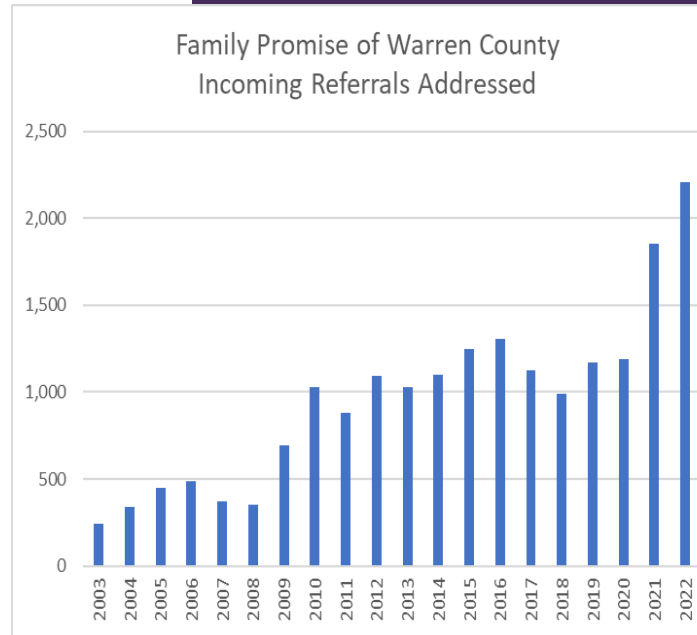
At our start, we were blessed with a dedicated volunteer Board of Directors that had the vision to address family homelessness in Warren County. While that indeed was a hefty goal, there was no doubt that there was a need for what was then the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Warren County.

Throughout the years, the vision changed to “A county where every family has a home, a livelihood and future full of promise”. The current volunteer Board of Directors moved forward on faith to address the increased need with the purchase and renovation of the former Shaker Inn. And through their volunteerism and vision, this new facility will provide families who are in the crisis of homelessness with a place that provides them with dignity but also with responsibility to make positive changes. Volunteers... yes indeed through their hard work and vision, this Board, and the many Boards before them have and will continue to change lives.

And what about those volunteers that have provided over 2000 hours at the new facility? From the American Heritage Girls who unpacked boxes and provided warm coffee at our Open House to the Exchange Club, to LCNB volunteers and others who did landscaping. To the Latter-Day Saints missionaries who week after week, boxed up our current

Vision:

“A county where every family has a home, a livelihood and a future full of promise.”



Another record year for referrals in 2022! Over 2,000 men, women, and children were assisted!

Mission:

“To assist Warren County homeless families achieve sustainable independence through a community based response.”

Linda's Letter cont. on next page...

Board of Directors

David Yelton - President
 Tom Ludeke - Vice President
 Rev. Mary Joseph - Host Recruitment
 Todd Rockstroh - Secretary/Facilities Chair
 Jennifer Goepper - Member
 Rev. Jackie Matisse - Member
 Linda Rabolt - Executive Director

Advisory Board

Monica Widdig - Treasurer
 Carol Spicer - Personnel Chair

FPWC Staff

Nichole Richardson - Case Manager
 Jesse Bischoff - Office Manager/
 Marketing
 Doug Gilham - HCRP (A-M)
 Danielle August - HCRP (N-Z)
 Andrew Rabolt - Statistics, HCRP
 Josh Beckett - Driver
 Dave Hawkey - Driver
 Marianne Duerre - Special Projects
 Linda Rabolt - Executive Director



Many thanks to Bonnie Moore of Sand Dollar Sweets & Treats who provided home made cookies for the Family Promise families (and yes, the staff may have tasted one or two! Delicious!)
 Thanks Bonnie

locations, moved those boxes and then unboxed them. Never a complaint and always a heart filled with love for others.

Our rooms would never have been complete and so beautiful without the time, vision, care, concern, and love from volunteers. Folks from the Elks, Silverwood Farms, various congregations, families and even the Service-Learning Class at Lebanon High School took the time to look into their hearts to change a dreary hotel room to a welcoming temporary home for a family in crisis. Volunteers... with hearts of gold making smiles for families who are at their lowest point in their lives..

Our day center was transformed by Volunteers. IKEA was all in. They provided offices, a training room where our families will learn about Financial Security, Parenting, Landlord-Tenant Relations, Nutrition, Health, and other skills that will benefit them and their children for years to come. Doyle and Marvin with the funds from Miami Valley Gaming and others, upgraded a drab kitchen to a fully functional and friendly eating area. And the Lebanon United Methodist Church who is transforming the nursery, the playroom, and the computer room to be fully functional, warm, and welcoming.

None of this happens without our Volunteers. Everyday people provide extraordinary blessings to families in the crisis of homelessness.

And as we look towards the future, we are going to need more and more extraordinary volunteers. Young and old, retired or working, single or family, everyone can share their love. Are you part of a business, a club, a congregation? Will

your fellow employees, friends, and parishiners volunteer with you? Can you cook? Can you hold a baby? Can you serve a meal? Can you listen to a mother who is scared? Can you share a craft? Can you share a skill? Can you sleep overnight? What is your talent? What is in your heart to share?

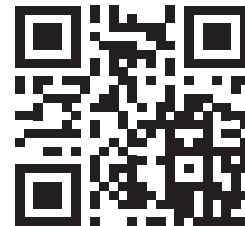
We welcome all Volunteers. We honor all Volunteers. We give thanks for all of our Volunteers. If you would like to be part of the Family Promise of Warren County family of volunteers, please contact Linda Rabolt at 513-934-5250 or at linda@ihnwc.org.

Over the years, I have been blessed to make many friendships with my many volunteers. Each one is a blessing and holds a special place in my heart. I don't need a special month to appreciate all the volunteers that are the foundation of Family Promise of Warren County. Every day, every hour of the day, know that you are appreciated!

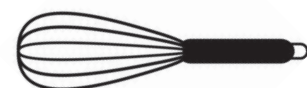


IT'S A KITCHEN SHOWER FOR
FAMILY PROMISE OF WARREN COUNTY
CAMPUS

REGISTRY AT AMAZON



SCAN THE QR CODE TO BE DIRECTED
 OR FOLLOW THE LINK <https://a.co/6cugeUd>



Upcoming Events

Run4Home 5K & Kid's Fun Run



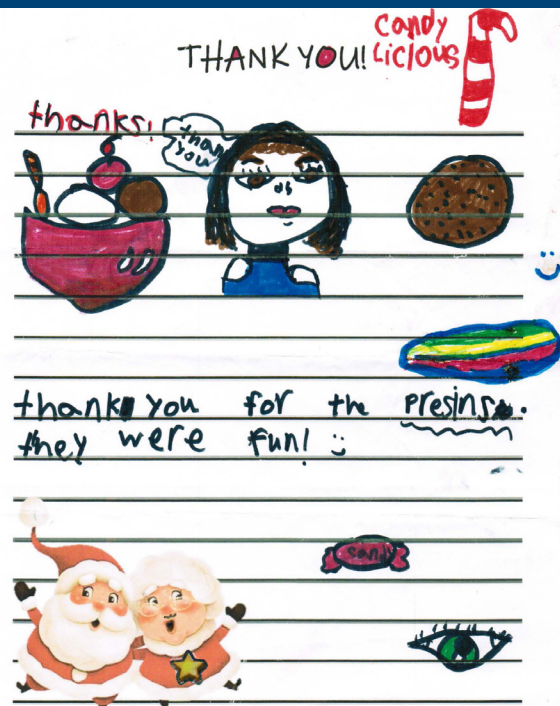
We are so excited to hold the 17th Annual Run4Home on July 4 at 8:30 a.m. at Shelter 33 at Armco Park. This is a great way to begin the Independence Day holiday! We will be working with Brunning Endurance again this year as the timing company. Medals will be given to first and second place male/female in each age category as well as overall male/female winners. There will be water available mid race and a copious food table at the end of the race for all participants. In addition to the walk/run, there will be a ¼ mile long Kids' Fun Run with all children receiving a participation medal, water at the end of their run and goodies to celebrate their finish!

The proceeds of the 2023 Run4Home 5K and Kids' Fun Run will benefit Christmas in July as well as the playground and storybook garden path at the new Family Promise of Warren County facility! To sign up for the Run4Home go to <https://www.brunningendurance.com/upcoming-events/2023/3/19/run-4-home-5k> or check out familypromisewarren.org for an entry form. We look forward to seeing you on July 4!

Christmas in July

Christmas in July will be held on July 29. This program is one of the most important programs that Family Promise of Warren County provides. It is important for children to be fully prepared for the first day of school. This means that children not only have school supplies and backpacks but that they have haircuts, new shoes, socks, undergarments, clothing and even a fall jacket. Christmas in July, under the leadership of Jennifer and Bill Keezer and this year with the support and volunteers of Mane, Inc. will assure that the children who were in shelter and are currently in shelter are provided with all that they need to successfully begin the school year.

In addition to their school and clothing needs, the families will be treated to a fun atmosphere of crafts, games, Christmas dinner and there will also be a visit from Santa himself who by the way, vacations in Ohio every year! Your support of this program is greatly appreciated! Thank you!



Dear Friends,

As the holiday season draws to a close, we wanted to express our deepest gratitude for your generosity and kindness in adopting our family this Christmas. Your selflessness has truly touched our hearts and made our holiday season so much brighter. Thanks to your thoughtfulness our family was able to experience the opening of presents, sharing a festive meal and creating new memories together. Your gifts have brought so much happiness and light into our lives during what has been a challenging year for us. Your compassion and kindness towards strangers like us is a true testament to the Christmas spirit of giving and sharing. It has reminded us that even in the midst of a difficult time, there are still people like you in the world who care deeply and are willing to help. From the bottom of our hearts we cannot thank you enough for the love and support you have shown to us. We are deeply humbled and grateful for your generosity and we will always remember this Christmas as a time when we were blessed with the love and kindness of our fellow human beings. May the joy and blessing of Christmas be with you all today and always,

-Amanda and family

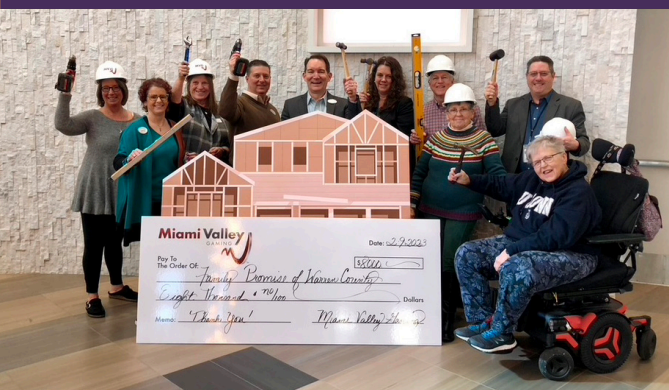
Many Thanks to People's Bank for their generous donation for our new campus!



Are you receiving our E-Newsletter?

This newsletter keeps you up to date on the most recent improvements to our new building! To sign up for this, visit our web-page at www.familypromisewarren.org/e-newsletter or send your email to jesse@ihnwc.org.

Many thanks to Miami Valley Gaming and their customers for their generous support!



FPWC Capital Campaign Update

by Tom Ludeke
FPWC Board Vice President



In early 2020 the FPWC board adopted a strategic plan to double our capacity to serve homeless families in our community. We knew that would require additional resources –volunteer time and energy, physical space, and case management staff. As previously reported, a capital campaign was launched to address the financial components, seeking to raise \$860,000 to purchase a residential facility, \$440,000 for renovation and improvements, and \$400,000 to fund additional staff and operating expenses over the first 3-5 years.

We are pleased to report that a total of \$700,000 has been raised to date, which combined with \$350,000 that had previously been set aside for the project puts us at \$1,050,000 total, or nearly two-thirds of the way toward our goal. We are actively in discussions with several potential key donors and are optimistic they will come together in coalition to

retire our \$550,000 mortgage debt, eliminating these ongoing monthly payments. While licensed contractors have performed work on electrical, plumbing, and HVAC systems, volunteers from our board, network congregations, and community organizations have provided thousands of hours of volunteer labor to transform this building into a welcoming home for our guest families and a functional office for our staff. We are very grateful for all of this support and are excited to welcome our first guests into the new facility.



Host Recruitment & Retention

by Jennifer Fry & Mary Joseph
Co-Chairs

Greetings everyone, and Happy Spring! It seems as though I was just finishing up my portion of the Host Recruitment & Retention article for the December, 2022 newsletter. And now here it is, March as I begin to write! The daffodils in my gardens are beginning to blossom, I have seen one crocus in full bloom, and the perennials are beginning to poke through and show off their new spring growth! It's always an exciting time of the year and so it is with Family Promise as we all anticipate the days when the staff and the families we serve can move to the new campus.

Where has the time gone? We have all, at some time or another, asked that question. To begin this New Year (which seems to be flying by), we celebrated a wonderful open house and dedication of the new Family Promise campus in January. It was a very chilly day but our hearts and spirits were warmed by the gathering of so many people. The refreshments were very good, especially the hot coffees, the tours of the building were well done, and seeing the completed



rooms and those still in process added such joy to this occasion. Thank you to all who participate in this event behind the scenes and on the day!

Spring is the season of renewal, of refreshed hope, and change. And we have had plenty of change in recent years! I just had a conversation yesterday that started, "Business in a post-Covid world is different and comes with its own set of challenges." Well, caring for families in a post-Covid world is the same! One of the things we've all learned in the last few years is that while change is hard, we can roll with it and adapt to whatever challenges come along. In this post-Covid world, the way we serve our families continues to evolve. As we move first the staff and then our families into our new Family Promise of Warren County Campus, there will be a continuing need for your support, your care, and your prayers. We will still be looking to our "host organizations" to provide meals, but we will also be looking for volunteers to come to the campus and engage with the families either by lending an ear, sharing a story, or playing games with the children and their families.

The other need we foresee is to have overnight hosts stay at the facility with the families. Before 2020, our hosting congregations provided two people to stay in their churches each night with the families. As we move into the new facility, we'll be asking for these types of hosts again. Overnight hosts will have their own room with bathroom and shower and be there to assist as needed. We hope you will consider being an overnight to host our families!

Our HR&R team continues to reach out to those who are creating wonderful meals, writing encouraging notes to our families and contributing some craft items for the children and youth. We have also welcomed a new organization who will be providing casseroles for dinner meals for several weeks this year. Casseroles of Hope was founded in April 2022 by Doyle & JoAnn Key in Springboro/ Clearcreek Township, OH. Please visit their website at casserolesofhope.org to learn more about them. And there are also several churches that will join us this year, too. As always, our team, is most grateful to those who shared their time and talent with our Family Promise families during 2022.



Host & Support Churches

- Heritage Presbyterian Church
- St. Susanna Church
- Mason United Methodist Church
- Hope Church, Mason
- Compass Christian Church
- Grace Baptist Church
- Open Table Church
- Lebanon Presbyterian Church
- Lebanon United Methodist Church
- Pleasant Plain Presbyterian
- St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
- Lakeveiw UCC
- True Kingdom Ministries
- St. Mary Magdalene
- Nexus Church
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
- Resurrection Lutheran Church
- Bethany UCC
- Sycamore Presbyterian Church
- Our Lady of Sorrows
- Monroe United Methodist
- One Community Church
- The River Church
- First Church of God
- North Cincinnati Community Church
- Springboro First United Methodist
- Covenant Presbyterian Church
- Springboro United Church of Christ
- Pilgrim South
- Red Lion United Methodist Church
- Living Water Lutheran Church
- Cobblestone Community Church
- New Freedom Church
- Lifehouse Church
- King of Kings Lutheran Church
- *Casseroles of Hope*

If you have questions on how to become a host or support congregation, business or organization, do not hesitate to contact Linda Rabolt at (513) 934-5250

COHHIO NEWS CLIPS

Food certainly isn't getting any cheaper, and neither is rent. With so many Ohioans stuck in the low wage – high rent economy, the March 1 expiration of COVID-era SNAP benefits means many families will be forced to choose between buying food and paying rent. And, to make matters worse, many will also soon lose their Medicaid coverage as the public health emergency comes to an end.

Coordinator Corner

by Pastor Matthew Wright
Lebanon United Methodist Church



In Matthew 25:35-40, Jesus communicates the importance of serving others, *“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.”* Then the righteous will answer him, saying, *‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’* And the King will answer them, *‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’”*

Jesus paints a clear picture of how crucial it is to be a servant. When we serve others, we are serving Him. Lebanon UMC has had the privilege and honor to serve alongside Family Promise of Warren County since 1998. With the changes that COVID made, we no longer have the personal interaction and connection to the families we once had in the past. However, this may soon change with the Shaker Inn initiative. LUMC always loves seeing the smiling faces and

the appreciative hugs of the families we serve.

Currently, we have several small groups which provide the dinners each night for the families. Our mission team coordinates and purchases all the breakfast and lunch items for the week which are delivered that first evening of the week.

You always want to do more and give more but understand that the families living space is very limited. It always is a joy to also bless the FP delivery drivers with a meal for their dedication and commitment to the program. It is such a blessing to be able to serve our neighbors here in Lebanon, Ohio and partner with such a God ordained mission like Family Promise.

We are convinced that God is far more interested in why we serve others than in how well we serve them. He's always looking at your heart, serving willingly and eagerly out of love for Jesus and gratitude for all he's done for you. Indeed, we are most like Jesus when we're serving others. After washing his disciples' feet, Jesus said, *“I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you.”* (John 13:14–15)

Love Christ, Love Others,
Serve the World.



1. What do you usually do to volunteer for FPWC? Which is your favorite?

I have been focused on the renovation of the new Family Promise Center for the past year. From helping to install new light fixtures, ripping out the old carpet and kick boards, punching out future doorways, to refinishing cabinets, and painting and painting some more. It's all been fun.

2. How did you first get involved in FPWC?

A good friend of mine from our Monday night men's Bible Study group had told me about FPWC and the new facility that they were embarking upon. The project sounded exciting.

3. What is your "why" for volunteering?

My daughter and I did weekend outreaches into the community with acts of kindness programs for over 12 years with our church. As a family we have always felt God pulling at our hearts to bring God's kingdom to our neighbors. Getting involved with FPWC was where God wanted me to be.

4. What is a memorable moment about your work with us?

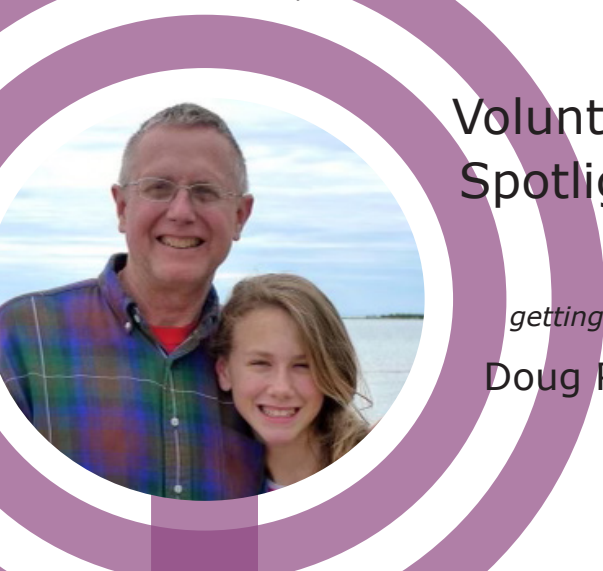
I will never forget the dedication day for Family Promise. It was an amazing day to realize what the many volunteers accomplished to make this day happen. I felt blessed to be a small part of it.

5. What would you tell new members/volunteers about volunteering for FPWC?

This organization truly has a heartfelt impact on all the people that they serve. As a volunteer you are making it possible to serve someone and to help make a positive difference in their lives.

6. Tell us a fun fact about yourself!

I was an amateur bicycle racer.



Volunteer Spotlight

getting to know

Doug Pendery

Staff Spotlight

getting to know

Doug Gilham

HCRP Case Manager



1. How long have you been a member of the staff of FPWC? What is your position? Tell us a little about what you do and your educational background.

I was first made aware of FPWC in 2011 while attending church at Cobblestone Community Church. I started by volunteering and in 2014 became the Host Coordinator for the church. I joined FPWC as a member of the Board of Directors in 2017. I was then hired on as a Homeless Crisis Response Program case manager in 2019 which is my current position. I am also a Host Recruitment and Retention team member for FPWC. I am a HS graduate who ran a Lawn & Landscape business from 1982 to 1997. I was in charge of running the day to day operations including scheduling and personnel assignments and issues. I have been involved with KAIROS prison ministries since 2017 and help bring Christ to those currently incarcerated at Warren County Institute twice a year on weekend long programs.

2. What do you enjoy most about being on the FPWC staff?

I very much enjoy the camaraderie that exists within our staff, which makes it feel like a family. We help each other out and it is not a competition as it could be with more competitive employment opportunities. The staff all have caring hearts and genuinely want to help those in need and go to great lengths to do what is right by each individual.

3. What do you love most about your current position?

I love the challenge of trying to assist those who have fallen on hard times and are finding it difficult to see a path forward. It can be frustrating at times, but knowing that FPWC tries to help all those that come to us for assistance and seeing their issues will be resolved is very rewarding even when it is possibly another agency that helps the client that we may refer them to.

4. Tell us a little about your family.

Born and raised in SE Ohio, I was the 5th among my siblings of 4 sisters and one older brother (deceased), with 2 sisters coming from my father's previous marriage. Both of my parents are deceased. I married Lorie Luyrink on August 3rd 2014 and we have 2 golden retrievers and 2 budgies, which are birds.

5. What's something about you (a fun fact) that not many people know?

I love music, photography and film production. I have tried incorporating all three of these mediums to create visual and audio experiences that stimulate thought and show the beauty of our environment as well as bring light to causes that are important to me. The "fun fact" is I love to just drive around and "get lost" while finding new places, people and areas to explore and document in some way.

FPWC Campus Update

by Tom Ludeke
FPWC Board Vice President



Our Board was thrilled to host over 200 visitors on a chilly day in January for an Open House at our new campus on Cincinnati Avenue. Guests included dozens of volunteers who have contributed their time, effort and love to bring this dream to life for homeless families in our community. Pastors Mary Joseph and Jackie Matisse led us all in a moving ceremony featuring a litany of dedication followed by everyone joining together in song.

Family Promise of Warren County was launched in 1998 as a community-based response to homelessness. Never has that been more evident than with the unveiling of our fourteen new guest rooms, which have each been renovated by IHN network congregations, businesses, community service organizations, a neighborhood and a Lebanon High School class. All of the rooms came to us with identical standard-issue economy motel furnishings and finishes. Dark green carpet and curtains with too-dark gold walls, poor lighting, and generic country motel furniture. Not bad in general – this reporter has certainly stayed in lesser accommodations on many occasions – but not very cheerful or inviting either.

At the Open House visitors paraded through the newly renovated guest rooms as if they were at Homearama, oohing and aahing over the light and soothing new color schemes, highly functional furnishings, and personal touches that have been applied to each room. All of the dark green carpets have been replaced by new vinyl plank flooring, all rooms have been repainted, bunkbeds and new furnishings, linens and window coverings have been added.

Every room is now unique and truly a home rather than a motel. A free guest laundry room lies in the middle of the row for families to use. At the opposite end of the building is a spacious new day center where families will enjoy meals together with our volunteers. A study with multiple computer workstations will support homework and job search efforts, while a quiet nursery will soothe infants and toddlers for their nap. The space that most excites Linda, our Executive Director, is a large classroom

equipped for frequent sessions on budgeting, cooking, parenting, landlord/tenant relations, job search, resume writing and interview skills. This is adjoined by a small kitchen for refreshments.

As of this date all of the renovation work has been completed. We have contracted for installation of a state-of-the-art video security and intrusion system to protect our guests, volunteers and staff, which will be installed in April. Fence contractors are working on designs and permits with the hope of installing in the second quarter. Staff have begun transferring more than two decades of accumulated files and material to the new building and will begin working from their new offices in April or May. After a shakedown period of a month or so, the first guest families will join us in May or June.

Thank you to everyone for your support during this exciting time as we transform the way we serve families in our community experiencing the crisis of homelessness. Of the 200 Family Promise affiliates across the U.S., fewer than 20 own and operate a residential campus and ours will truly be one of the pre-eminent ones in the country.



Stories of Promise

by Danielle Monds
Graduated Client



I became a mother 2 months after my 18th birthday. Looking down at a happy healthy baby, the panic set in. How will I take care of him? How will I give him the life he deserves?

The first 6 months after I had my son was a struggle. His father suffered from addiction and could not hold a job. I was making minimum wage and was struggling to keep the lights on. We ended up moving in with family, and I quickly realized that if I wanted my child to have a better life and more opportunities. Something had to change.

I left my son's father, and I came to Family Promise praying for a miracle, and that's exactly what I received. Linda and the staff immediately made me feel safe, and for the first time in a long time, hopeful. During my stay at Family Promise I decided to go back to school and pursue a Nursing degree. I enrolled in classes for a nurse's aid program. I worked full time, went to classes, and did my best to be a good

mom. During those classes, my instructor told me that I'd never be a nurse. I came back to the day center completely defeated. Linda lifted me up that day in a way no one ever has. She gave me the confidence to push on and complete my classes. As a teen mom, many people decide your fate for you, and judge you before they know you. Linda and the staff never once did this. The churches and their volunteers always met me with a warm smile and a hot meal. They saw the potential in me to do something great and supported me during my stay with Family Promise and after I transitioned into my new home.

I moved into my new home, and received everything I needed to start my new life from Heaven and Hearth; furniture, dishes, and even some appliances. I enrolled in nursing school and endured a very stressful year. Linda and the staff continued to support me on my journey to a better life. I graduated nursing school in August 2009. The day I walked into job and family services to end my assistance benefits is a day I will never forget.

The years have passed, my son is 16 now, and as of 2020 I married a wonderful man. We were blessed with another child who keeps us on our toes. I was a nurse for over a decade and have

transitioned into Health, Safety, and Environmental work. My new job allows me to travel and see the world. I have owned several homes and most importantly I am able to give both of my children opportunities in life that I never had.

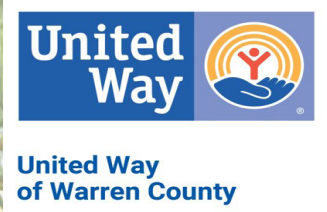
As I walk down memory lane, my emotions and perceptions of my story have changed. Where I used to feel shame or guilt for my situation, I now feel pride and strength. I am proud of the life we've built and the strength we had to overcome the struggles we faced along the way. Our story is so much more than the successes we have celebrated, it was the journey to get here, the smiles, the tears, the laughs, and losses. My experience with Family Promise taught me that a little kindness goes a long way, so pay it forward. I would never be where I am without the support from Family Promise and all of the volunteers and churches who donate their time and efforts into helping families get a new start.





To all the volunteers who helped us in 2022, We thank you!





Did you know in 2022 FPWC shelter program assisted:

- 27 families
- 87 individuals
- 37 children
- 2209 referrals*
- 600 families & 220 persons helped in all FPWC programs in 2022*

*every referral was assisted appropriately and may not have required the shelter program to achieve success. Referrals for services in 2022 exceeded the total referrals for all of 2021 (1851)

In 2021 Ohio ranked 37 out of the 50 states for childhood poverty. A total of 463,841 children or 18.2% live in poverty in Ohio. This is compared to the national average of 16.9%. FPWC thanks our many supporters and volunteers for your support of those children through this program.

Thank you to all the many volunteers at our host and support churches for providing meals, fellowship, hospitality and unconditional love to our families. If you would like to get involved, please contact Linda Rabolt, Executive Director, at 513-934-5250 or linda@ihnwc.org. For more information about FPWC go to www.familypromisewarren.org.